

Ibrahimi holds talks in Syria

DAMASCUS (AP) — Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmad Taleh Ibrahimi discussed on Saturday with his Syrian counterpart the extraordinary Arab summit meeting scheduled for Amman Nov. 8. The Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) said Mr. Ibrahimi, who arrived earlier in the day, met Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa and also conferred with Vice President Abdul Halim Khaddam. Algerian sources accompanying Mr. Ibrahimi said he was carrying a special message from President Chadli Benjedid to his Syrian counterpart, Hafez Al Assad. SANA said talks between the two foreign ministers focused on the "situation in the Arab World and the Arab summit due to be held in Amman." It gave no other details. It said Mr. Ibrahimi discussed with Mr. Khaddam the situation in the Arab region. The Algerian minister arrived in Damascus four days after a visit by Iranian Prime Minister Hussein Musavi, and two days after U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy met Syrian leaders. Algeria has in the past been sympathetic towards Iran, but has largely taken a mediating role in recent years.

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Rifai briefs Cabinet on London talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai on Saturday briefed the Cabinet on His Majesty King Hussein's recent contacts with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Yuri Voronov in London. The King emphasized Jordan's clear and frank policy with regard to the Middle East question and the need for convening an international peace conference to be attended by the permanent members of the Security Council for the implementation of council resolutions 242 and 338 and for resolving the Palestinian problem in all its aspects, Mr. Rifai said. He said that the King stressed that there could be no substitute for this conference because "it is the only means of arriving at a comprehensive and permanent peace in the Middle East." During Saturday's ordinary session, the Cabinet approved a number of draft and revised laws. Among draft laws endorsed by the Cabinet were an amendment to the law of the Jordan economy and social insurance for retired servicemen, an amendment to the law of Armed Forces officers' service, a draft law for practicing veterinary medicine and a draft law of investment at the Free Zone Corporation.

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Gemayel due in Abu Dhabi today

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanese President Amin Gemayel will begin a working visit to Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on Sunday, the presidential palace announced. It gave no details of the trip beyond saying it was at the invitation of UAE President Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahayan. Observers linked the visit in the Nov. 8 Arab summit in Amman.

Tehran says bomb group arrested

NICOSIA (R) — Security men in Iran have arrested a group responsible for a car-bomb blast in Tehran last month, Iran's IRNA news agency reported on Saturday. It said a large amount of explosives was seized from the group which included an Iraqi, named by the agency as Zaher Fatah. The Sept. 26 bomb blast on tree-lined Keshavarz boulevard in the Iranian capital damaged several cars but caused no casualties. Tehran Radio at the time blamed it on "agents of world arrogance" — Iran's blanket term for opposition guerrilla groups.

No final Reagan decision on Iran ban

WASHINGTON (R) — President Ronald Reagan was reportedly ready to ban trade with Iran, but a White House spokesman on Saturday said no such decision had yet been made. The spokesman, Mark Weinberg, was responding to a report in the Washington Post newspaper which said Mr. Reagan was ready to sign a trade ban because of Iran's attacks on U.S. interests in the Gulf. The newspaper quoted senior Reagan administration officials as saying the executive order was on the president's desk and awaited only his signature. Mr. Reagan was at the presidential retreat in Maryland for the weekend.

Sudanese stage pro-Mahdi rally

KHARTOUM (AP) — Sudan's coalition government turned out more than 50,000 demonstrators Saturday to support the army and denounce the fundamentalist National Islamic Front (NIF) and southern rebels. Preceded by about 200 horsemen and a marching band, the marchers paraded along Khartoum's main streets. Many carried flags of Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi's Umma Party or its main coalition partner, the Democratic Unionist Party. Shadowed by police in riot gear, the marchers dispersed peacefully after listening to Mr. Mahdi and others speak at the council of ministers, the cabinet's headquarters.

France conducts nuclear test

WELLINGTON (AP) — France conducted its biggest nuclear test in the Pacific region in two years early Saturday, New Zealand scientists said. Dr. Warwick Smith said his equipment at Rarotonga in the Pacific recorded a 50-kiloton explosion at 4:50 a.m. (1650 GMT Friday).

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Parliament pledges full support for King's policies and directives

Upper and Lower Houses, in reply to speech from throne, laud government's programme

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Parliament on Saturday endorsed and pledged full support for His Majesty King Hussein's policies and directives contained in the King's speech from the throne, delivered at the opening of Parliament's fifth ordinary term on Oct. 10.

The Upper House (Senate) and Lower House of Parliament also pledged to carry out the King's directives on issues related to Jordan's domestic, pan-Arab and foreign policies.

Both chambers also voiced total support for the government's various socio-economic programmes and the King's pledge to strengthen the Armed Forces, the People's Army and the Public Security Department (PSD) in order to secure national stability and achieve further development.

In separate meetings with the

King on Saturday, the two Houses pledged full backing for efforts by His Majesty and government to achieve a united pan-Arab stand capable of confronting all challenges facing the Arab World, and said these efforts were crowned by the decision of the Arab foreign ministers to hold an extraordinary Arab summit in Amman on Nov. 8.

Both Houses also voiced appreciation for Jordan's work on the regional and international levels to rally support for the convening of an international

peace conference on the Arab-Israeli conflict and said that despite Israel's hardline stand on the proposed conference, the Kingdom's constant calls in that direction had received worldwide support.

Parliament also reiterated Jordan's total support for Iraq in its war with Iran and expressed appreciation for endeavours by the King and government to strengthen the steadfastness of people living in the occupied Arab territories.

The two chambers also welcomed the King's decision to extend the term of the present Lower House to a period not exceeding two years and pledged to continue their legislative march in total cooperation with the executive branch to serve the people and country.

The King heard both Houses' replies to his speech from the

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Bomb wrecks offices of U.S. airline agency in Kuwait City

KUWAIT (Agencies) — A bomb rocked a downtown agency office of U.S.-owned Pan American airline on Saturday, the latest in a series of blasts which Kuwait in the past has blamed on pro-Iranian militants.

Kuwait security officials said the device exploded outside the seafront office of Gharbally Travel Agency, blowing out its windows and their aluminium frames, but causing no injuries. Kuwait officials did not immediately identify any suspects. It was the ninth such incident in Kuwait this year.

Saturday's explosion, which appeared to have been caused by a bomb placed under the blue and white Pan Am sign, came after pro-Iranian militants in Lebanon had threatened to strike at U.S. and European targets in retaliation for their intervention in the Gulf.

Iraq and Kuwait urge U.N. action to end war

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq said on Saturday the Gulf war was testing the credibility of the United Nations and Kuwait called for a greater U.N. role in solving world conflicts.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein said in a message to U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to mark the 42nd anniversary of the world body that Iranian actions posed an "unprecedented challenge" to Security Council authority. "Iranian rulers have made Iran the only U.N. member in the history of the organisation to refuse to abide by unanimous resolutions calling for a ceasefire," President Hussein added. The Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, in a rare public statement which did not mention the Iran-Iraq, said the United Nations must work to "solve critical problems which have cried out for years and years to be looked at."

Last Thursday a missile blamed by Kuwait on Iran slammed into the main oil terminal in Kuwait. Mr. Perez de Cuellar has given both sides until the end of the month to respond to proposals to implement a July 20 Security Council resolution.

The blast shook downtown Kuwait at 2.10 p.m. (1110 GMT), 70 minutes after the offices closed down for lunch break. A policeman on the scene said no-one was injured.

The explosion shattered window glass of the five-storey building, but strangely left the Pan Am sign intact.

The agency's three ground-floor offices were wrecked in the blast. Police rushed to the scene and ringed the building in the Arabian Gulf Street, facing the picturesque dhow harbour.

The building is only 200 metres from the Sief Palace, which the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, uses as an office.

Reporters heard two other explosions on Saturday more than an hour after the Pan Am office blast as bomb experts detonated suspicious packages found at the

scene.

It was not immediately clear if the Emir, who had escaped assassination in a car bomb attack in May 1983, was at the Sief Palace at the time of the blast on Saturday.

Kuwait has been the scene of a series of bombings against U.S., French and Kuwaiti installations in the past four years. The upsurge of sabotage has been blamed on Shi'ite Muslim supporters of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's Islamic revolution in Iran.

Kuwait has been hit by three Iranian missiles in the last week. Pro-Iranian Shi'ites have also been carrying out bombings and sabotage in the country for months.

Kuwait has been a terrorist target since December 1983 when the U.S. and French embassies were car-bombed.

An Iranian speedboat attacked the Panamanian-flag tanker, which was carrying naphtha, a volatile petroleum product from Saudi Arabia to Australia, with rocket-propelled grenades and machine guns in the southern Gulf before dawn, marine salvage executives reported. The attack started a small fire but caused no casualties, said the executives.

In Washington, Mr. Weinberger suggested Friday that U.S. navy warships might protect other vessels in the Gulf in addition to the 11 Kuwaiti tankers they are escorting through the troubled waterway.

"If we are aware of a ship under attack, if the people there need help, we would respond," Mr. Weinberger told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee as he defended President Ronald Reagan's Gulf policy.

At another point, Mr. Weinberger said tankers owned by U.S. companies, but which fly other national flags, could also be protected.

"If they requested specific coverage for a specific voyage, yes," the navy might protect the U.S.-owned ships, Mr. Weinberger said in answer to a question

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His Majesty King Hussein on Saturday listens to replies by the Upper House and Lower House of Parliament in his speech from the throne on Oct. 10. The replies were read out by Upper House Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi and Lower House Speaker Akel Al Fayed at an audience at the Royal Court (Petra photos)

Lower House condemns Iran, voices solidarity with Kuwait

Deputies endorse Al Wahdah agreement

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Lower House of Parliament on Saturday condemned Iranian aggression on Kuwaiti oil installations, territorial waters, and vessels, and said it stood by Kuwait in its defence of its sovereignty and Arab identity.

The House on Saturday also endorsed the Sept. 3 agreement signed between Jordan and Syria to build the Al Wahdah (Unity) Dam across the Yarmouk River in the Maqarin area. Under the accord, Al Wahdah water would be used for irrigation purposes, generating hydro-electric power and domestic use in both countries.

In a cable sent by House Speaker Akel Al Fayed to the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, the 60-member body reaffirmed Jordan's national stand on pan-Arab issues and denounced "the constant Iranian

attempts to undermine the region's security and stability."

"The Iranian regime is constantly trying to escalate tension in the region and to widen the area of military operations... these acts only aim at exposing the region's independence and security to the dangers of foreign intervention," the cable said.

The House said it looked forward for the crystallisation of a firm pan-Arab stand against Iran at the extraordinary Arab summit scheduled to be held in Amman on Nov. 8.

The cable expressed hope that "the Amman summit will put an end to the Iranians' recklessness and will enforce the capabilities of the Arab Order to protect the future of the Arab nation."

Deputies, by a majority show-of-hands vote, ratified the Al Wahdah agreement.

The accord was listed on the agenda of Saturday's session and was to be referred to the House's Financial Committee for evaluation. However, the committee's

chairman, Mr. Mousa Abu Al Ragheb, urged the House to endorse the accord as was forwarded by the government. The suggestion won consent.

According to the House's internal charter, parliament members have no power to introduce amendments to any agreements or treaties reached between the government of Jordan and any other government(s). But, the legislature has the right to either endorse or reject the accord.

During Saturday's session, deputies referred to the Legal Committee the following draft laws: The 1987 draft law on Jordan's Supreme Court, a 1987 amendment to the country's penal code, and a 1987 draft law to set up a judicial institute to qualify personnel and enable them to assume judicial posts on the basis of ability and free competition. A 1987 amendment to the law on additional fees for the Jordan, Yarmouk and Mu'ta universities was referred to the Financial Committee.

Israelis wound Arab boy in Nablus

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli troops in the occupied West Bank opened fire and seriously wounded a Palestinian boy after he allegedly attacked an Israeli policeman, the Israeli army command said Saturday.

Israel's defence minister, Yitzhak Rabin, said several hours after the attack that Israelis may face a new wave of Palestinian protests in the occupied territories. "We are nearing November, a month abundant with dates in the Arab history," he said on Israeli army radio. "This is a dangerous month and we are getting ready for it."

An army spokeswoman said the shooting incident occurred at 0650 a.m. (0450 GMT) near the military administration headquarters in Nablus, 60 kilometres north of Jerusalem.

Shultz says INF agreement can be signed without summit

BRUSSELS (Agencies) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said on Saturday the United States would sign an agreement abolishing medium-range nuclear missiles even if the signing did not take place at a superpower summit.

"I think we want to get that signed and I think it would be good to have it at a summit but if there isn't a summit... we'll look for some other way to do it," he told a news conference.

Mr. Shultz spoke to reporters after briefing NATO foreign ministers for two-and-a-half hours on his two days of talks in Moscow with Soviet leaders.

Despite high expectations, the Moscow talks failed to finalise a treaty eliminating intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) and to set a precise date for a summit this year between U.S. President

Ronald Reagan and Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Mr. Shultz said a prospective INF treaty to scrap all U.S. and Soviet nuclear missiles with ranges of 500 to 2100 kilometres was "a very important agreement."

He said the U.S. goal was "getting it done."

The treaty was the projected centerpiece of the next Reagan-Gorbachev summit. But Mr. Gorbachev informed Mr. Shultz on Friday he was not prepared to set a date to visit Washington.

Mr. Shultz said he did not think the Soviet leader would delay completion of the INF treaty to seek concessions on the U.S. programme to develop a space-based defence against Soviet ballistic missiles.

At the same time, Mr. Shultz rejected two Soviet proposals

that were made through TASS, the Soviet news agency, after he left Moscow.

One called for a moratorium to begin Nov. 1 on installing additional medium-range missile in Europe.

The other offered to stop Soviet operations at the Krivoyarsk radar site if the United States halted its work at a radar station in Scotland.

Of the missile moratorium, Mr. Shultz said: "That's the kind of thing no fish bites on." He added that the United States would maintain its missile programme until an agreement was completed.

To the surprise of the Americans, Mr. Gorbachev reneged on a tentative agreement to set an autumn date for a summit while Mr. Shultz was in Moscow.

India confident of subduing Tigers

JAFFNA, Sri Lanka (Agencies) — India showed increasing confidence against Tamil Tiger guerrillas on Saturday, flying journalists to Jaffna for the first time in its battle for the bullet-pocked Sri Lankan city.

But Indian generals — speaking above the boom and rattle of gunfire — declined to give a date for a victory New Delhi has described as impending since the first days of the two-week-old assault.

"As a soldier one doesn't give estimates but we hope to do it soon," Major-General A.S. Kalkat told reporters inside Jaffna Fort in the city centre.

"Pockets (of resistance) are being sterilised," Gen. Kalkat said, adding the advance was slow because Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) fighters opposing an Indo-Sri Lankan peace pact were setting off landmines indiscriminately.

"A massive explosive device went off three days ago and this

certainly hurt civilians," he said without elaborating.

At an air base outside the city, Indian troops displayed the freshly-skinned coat of a leopard they said had been the pet of Tigers chief Velupillai Prabhakaran. They also showed mortar bombs and landmines they said had been captured from the Tigers.

At least 133 Indian soldiers and more than 650 Tamil rebels have died in the assault on Jaffna, according to Indian officials. The rebels maintain that many of the reported rebel dead were civilians.

The Tigers also have alleged that Indian soldiers have killed civilians in anger or revenge. India has denied the charge.

In the east of the Indian Ocean island, tension rose and a 4.30 p.m. to six a.m. curfew was imposed after residents said Indian soldiers had killed 14 civilians and torched homes and shops on Friday in Kalawanchikudi town in Batticaloa district. India denied

the allegations. On Saturday, Sri Lankan military sources in Colombo said LTTE fighters had been ordered to try to converge on Jaffna from positions northwest of the city.

The sources, who spoke on condition of not being identified, said Mr. Prabhakaran issued the order in Jaffna by radio and the transmission was intercepted.

They could not say when the order was issued.

The sources also said radio intercepts indicated that the "Black Tigers," a Tigers suicide squad, was planning truck-bomb attacks on Indian troops in Jaffna. The Black Tigers are believed to have more than 250 members.

A group of 30 journalists was flown Friday from southern India to Indian army headquarters at Palali, then to the old Dutch fort inside Jaffna.

At Palali, Brigadier Kulwant Singh told reporters that Mr. Prabhakaran "is moving constantly."

Washington taking measures to prevent suicide bombings

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. forces in the Gulf are taking measures to guard against threatened suicide bombings by pro-Iranian radicals holding Americans hostage in Lebanon, the State Department has said.

The statement followed a warning issued Thursday in Beirut by the Islamic Jihad group, which said thousands of suicide bombers are poised for attacks against U.S. and European naval vessels in the Gulf. Islamic Jihad is believed to have carried out a series of suicide bombings against American and French targets in Lebanon in 1983 and 1984. More than 370 people, mostly U.S. and French servicemen, died in the attacks.

"We treat all threats seriously and we are taking the appropriate measures to guard against them," said State Department spokeswoman Phyllis Oakley. She did not elaborate.

She added that the United States was not surprised at the threats, saying: "We have come to expect threats like that from Islamic Jihad."

Mrs. Oakley noted that warn-

ings of attacks from that group often follow escalation of tensions between the United States and Iran or Arab states in the Middle East. She said the threats would not change U.S. policy in the Gulf.

President Ronald Reagan said Thursday night the United States would continue to escort Kuwaiti oil tankers in the Gulf and would retaliate if attacked by Iran.

Islamic Jihad, which means Holy War in Arabic, holds two Americans and three Frenchmen hostage in Lebanon.

Its warning against U.S. interests in the Gulf was accompanied by photographs of two of the hostages: Terry Anderson, the Middle East correspondent of the Associated Press, and French journalist Jean-Paul Kauffmann.

There was no word about the captives in the warning, and the photographs appeared intended to prove that the group's message

was authentic.

Mrs. Oakley said that by attaching the photographs to its warning, which was delivered to the offices of Western news agencies in Beirut, "the relationship between Iran and the hostage holders becomes even more obvious."

The United States repeatedly has contended that Iran maintains direct control over the extremist Muslim Shi'ites holding 23 foreigners hostage in Lebanon, but Iran has said its influence is limited.

"Once again we call on Iran and all those with influence in Lebanon to use whatever influence they have to achieve the release of all the hostages," Mrs. Oakley said. "The continued detention of these innocent people is abominable and serves no useful cause."

Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy visited Beirut Friday, meeting with Lebanese President Amr Gemayel and Prime Minister Salim Hoss. Mrs. Oakley declined to say whether he discussed ways to achieve freedom for the hostages.

Chinese reportedly train Iranian missilemen

WASHINGTON (R) — Chinese missile technicians are training the Iranians who scored hits on two oil tankers and a Kuwaiti oil platform in the Gulf in the past week, U.S. television reports has said.

One report said 15 Chinese technicians had been in Iran since July teaching Iranians how to achieve greater accuracy with the Chinese-made Silkworm missile. A second report on another network said it was not known whether the Iranians were being trained in Iran or China.

The Defence Department said on Friday night it had no comment on the reports.

In Peking, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman said the reports were "sheer fabrication." A Silkworm attack a U.S. flag Kuwaiti tanker last Friday brought a retaliatory navy strike against two Iranian oil platforms in the Gulf.

The United States did not strike back after the attacks on a U.S.-owned tanker registered in Liberia and a Kuwaiti oil platform.

U.S. intelligence reports say China has sold 30 to 35 of the surface-to-surface missiles to Iran.

The State Department said on Thursday it was holding up transfers of high-technology computers, communications and electronic equipment to China because of the tense situation in the Gulf.

The Senate on Thursday night voted to ask the White House to review a \$528 million arms agreement under which the United States has been supplying China with radar and navigation equipment to update its interceptor aircraft, and artillery shells and anti-submarine torpedoes.

Shevardnadze to visit Turkey

ANKARA (R) — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze has agreed in principle to visit NATO-member Turkey in the coming months, Soviet diplomatic sources said on Saturday.

Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal, who will seek re-election on Nov. 29, went to Moscow in 1986 to return a visit two years earlier by then Prime Minister Nikolai Tikhonov.

Mr. Shevardnadze's talks are expected to include the Iran-Iraq war, moves for an international conference involving permanent U.N. Security Council members on the Arab-Israeli dispute, and the issue of divided Cyprus.

Western diplomats describe ties between Ankara and Moscow as "correct."

British veterans train Gulf crews art of survival

GULF OF OMAN (R) — Former Royal Marine commandos, veterans of Britain's jungle and urban guerrilla wars, are teaching super-tanker crews the art of survival in "exocet alley" on Iran's Gulf oil shuttle run.

"When I first came out, it wasn't so bad," said one veteran of British campaigns in Borneo and Aden. "Since the Americans got involved, the situation has probably gotten worse."

"It's got to get worse before it gets better," he added during a break in training aboard one vessel.

Sandbag enclosures, armour walls and anti-missile nets are some of the special safety measures on the super-tanker, which will soon make the 800-kilometre to Kharg Island in the northern Gulf from the Strait of Hormuz.

The ex-Marine, who does not want his name revealed for fear of reprisals, is one of at least a dozen representatives of the London-based company, Defence Analysts Limited (DAL).

As tension in the Gulf heightens, drawing the United States and Iran into a shooting war, shipping companies were taking extraordinary measures to protect their vessels and crews.

American warships shepherd tankers through the Gulf on Wednesday while U.S. missions were on high alert worldwide after Iran promised to retaliate for attacks two of its oil platforms.

DAL, founded in 1985, is reaping very good business.

The unarmed DAL "safety advisors" travel with tankers on both sides of the Gulf waterway.

One night they might be sipping coffee with an Iranian petty officer discussing a possible Iraqi attack.

On another vessel, they might be fired at by an Iranian frigate. Together, the ex-Marines have made more than 200 runs on tankers up and down the Gulf. Three vessels were attacked, one was sunk, but "there were no bad casualties," said one.

Iraqi Exocet missiles are probably the greatest threat to tankers and crews, DAL analysts said. Ironically, it was in Britain's Falklands war that both the Exocet anti-shiping missile and DAL made their name.

DAL was founded by Commander "Sharkey" Ward, who planned and executed Britain's air campaign in the island conflict.

Despite that first-hand knowledge — and a safety record in the Gulf that wins shipowners insurance discounts — DAL still has no tried and tested answer to Exocet attacks.

"If a 250,000-tonne vessel gets hit by a missile weighing up to 600 pounds, there's a tremendous impact," said one DAL official. "It's like hitting a large bell with a very large sledgehammer — the whole ship rings from end to end."

Engineer Mobammad Taher saw an Aerospacel Exocet slam into another vessel a few hundred metres from him on a run to

Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal. "The whole ship shifted 180 degrees when it took that missile, and then terrible dark smoke came out," he said.

In Taher's convoy to Kharg, two of five vessels didn't return and seven people died.

Both Kuwait and the United States have accused Iran of using one of its Chinese-designed Silkworm missiles last Friday to hit the Sea Isle City tanker, flying the Stars and Stripes and lying in Kuwaiti waters.

Peking has repeatedly denied selling arms to Iran.

Standing behind an engine control panel buttressed by an armoured shield and a wall of sandbags, the Pakistani engineer said he had lied to his wife about where he was working.

A Greek captain aboard the tanker said crew turnover after a Kharg run was sometimes as high as 70 per cent. Some of the crew members he gets "can hardly walk on a ship," he said.

"Not everyone in the world wants to do the Kharg run," said the DAL ex-Marine. "What you get are not first class, or second class, or third class seamen."

Part of the DAL advisor's job is to try and whip the crew into shape, and drill them on safety procedures.

Under the midday sun, he instructed them how and where to build sandbag shelters on the deck of the tanker. In case of attack during loading at Kharg, the crew will do what the ex-Marine called "LDVS" — look,

diver and vanish.

Crew members working in the Gulf get war bonuses ranging up to triple their normal pay. For Pakistani engineers, this means about \$2,000 a month to make the "suicide run" to Kharg and back again.

"We have a scale — the deeper you go, the more you get," said the Greek captain, adding: "You always have volunteers. We never lost a charter because of crew refusing to go."

A Lloyd's insurance official said that tankers working the Iranian shuttle "are virtually uninsurable." But he added that a contract with DAL could make the difference in offering insurance on such vessels.

Idris Zaydi, the 28-year-old radio operator, remembers the first time he went to Kharg.

"I was too scared. I didn't sleep all night, going around asking questions," he said. "But after I left safely, it gave me more courage to go there again and make more money."

Zaydi also lies to his family about where he works. "The most dangerous place on the tanker is the engine room, which is below the highest part of the ship — sought by Exocet missiles. In 'exocet alley' south-east of Kharg, engineers go up to the deck, leaving controls on automatic."

Fuel tanks on both sides of the engines are drained and filled with water. Giant steel walls are welded on each side and in front of the control panel.

Hawks effective against Silkworms — experts

MANAMA, Bahrain (AP) — Although the Hawk missiles that Kuwait is deploying against Iran's Silkworms were designed to shoot down aircraft, they should be able to overtake and destroy the subsonic Chinese-made projectiles in flight, Defence experts said Friday.

Both are aging weapons systems, dating back almost 30 years, but have proven their worth in combat situations.

The U.S.-made Hawk, first put into service in 1959, was used for anti-aircraft defence during the Vietnam War. The Silkworms are based on an old Soviet anti-ship missile, the Styx. The Egyptians used several of these missiles to sink the Israeli destroyer, Eilat, on Oct. 21, 1967, four months after the Middle East war of that year.

The Chinese-made missiles, though relatively primitive, have demonstrated their lethal effect in the past week by scoring direct hits on two ships and Kuwait's

main offshore oil terminal, all at maximum range of about 80 kilometres.

Experts said they were skeptical about the use of the Hawk missiles against other missiles.

"The Hawks are an anti-aircraft missile. They certainly wouldn't be the preferred choice of weapons," said one, an editor at the authoritative Jane's Defence Weekly, in London.

Pentagon sources, asking not to be named, conceded that the Hawk would not be effective against many modern-day missiles, but has several advantages over the big, relatively plodding Silkworms.

The Hawk has a range of 40 kilometres and flies at more than twice the speed of sound. This would enable it to easily catch one of the Chinese missiles, which can attain a subsonic 1,25 kilometres an hour over an 80 kilometre range, the sources said.

Moreover, the Hawk's radar guidance system is especially

geared for low altitude targets, theoretically aircraft, but well suited for locking onto a missile designed to fly at about 100 feet (30 metres) above the ground or water.

The Hawk's high explosive warhead has a "proximity" fuse which enables it to destroy a target without actually scoring a direct hit, the Pentagon sources added.

The United States provided Kuwait with four mobile Hawk batteries and 200 of the 15-foot (5-metre), 1,400-pound (637-kilogramme) missiles in 1975, with another 60 missiles added in 1980, the sources said.

How many of the projectiles are still in its arsenal is not known, but some apparently have been deployed on Faylakah Island off Kuwait's northern coast as air raid defences.

Kuwait said Friday it is installing additional Hawk missiles on the tiny island.

Bonn stresses ships to remain out of Gulf

BONN (R) — Chancellor Helmut Kohl's chief spokesman has dismissed suggestions that West German naval forces could go beyond NATO's operational area in the Mediterranean and into the troubled Gulf region.

The U.S. Ambassador to West Germany, Richard Burt, said on Thursday that Washington and Bonn were discussing a possible widening of West Germany's role in protecting Western interests in the Gulf.

Earlier in the week, Mr. Kohl's security adviser, Horst Telschick,

said in an interview West Germany should shoulder greater responsibility in international security, in keeping with its economic power.

But government spokesman Friedrich Ost told Reuters on Friday: "The position of the government with regard to the international deployment of the Bundeswehr (the West German Armed Forces) is unchanged and as clear now as before."

"The operational area of the Bundeswehr, as defined by the constitution and the interpreta-

tion of the law, is limited to NATO areas," Mr. Ost added.

West Germany sent three navy ships this month under NATO command to the Mediterranean to replace allied warships diverted to duty in the Gulf. But ministers made clear the West German ships would not be under circumstances to go to the Gulf.

Telschick told the economic weekly magazine Wirtschaftswoche that West Europeans should give the United States more help in "resolving conflict outside Europe."

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* An art exhibition entitled "France in the 20th Century" at the French Cultural Centre (until Oct. 29).

* An exhibition of Swedish nature photography at the Alia Art Gallery.

* Art exhibition for Kamal and Nidal Tahbaj at Housing Bank Complex (until Nov. 21).

* An exhibition of books on health and fitness, sports and physical education at the American Centre (until Oct. 28).

* Indian photo exhibition at the University of Jordan (until Oct. 29).

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre ... Tel. 6610267

American Centre ... 644371

American Centre Library ... 641520

British Council ... 6361478

French Cultural Centre ... 637009

Goethe Institute ... 641993

Soviet Cultural Centre ... 642030

Spanish Cultural Centre ... 624049

Y.W.C.A. ... 639777

Huyar Arts Centre ... 665186

Jordan Archaeological Museum ... 647193

Amman Municipal Library ... 637111

Uov. of Jordan Library ... 843555

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Museum." Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.

Followers Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also dresses from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 631760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: An excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabbal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport. Tel. (08) 532003, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

ROYAL JORDANIAN (RJ) FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

10:15 Agaba (RJ)

10:45 Cairo (RJ)

11:00 Jeddah (RJ)

11:30 Doha, Abu Dhabi (RJ)

11:30 Kuwait, Doha, Bahrain (RJ)

17:25 London (RJ)

18:30 Cairo, Agaba (RJ)

18:30 Sharjah, Doha (RJ)

18:50 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)

19:05 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)

19:05 Paris (RJ)

19:30 Madrid, Rome (RJ)

00:25 Baghdad (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

09:55 Berlin, Larnaca (IF)

10:35 Vienna, New York (RJ)

12:30 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)

13:30 Cairo (RJ)

20:40 Kuwait (RJ)

20:40 Doha, Muscat (RJ)

20:45 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (RJ)

20:50 Baghdad (RJ)

21:40 Larnaca (RJ)

21:45 Cairo (RJ)

22:15 Damascus (RJ)

22:30 Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ)

23:00 Bangkok (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

07:20 Frankfurt (LH)

07:20 Damascus, Paris (AF)

09:30 Beirut (ME)

11:30 Larnaca, Berlin (IF)

13:10 Rome (AZ)

14:00 Baghdad (IA)

14:45 Tripoli (LN)

14:45 Bahrain, Sharjah (GF)

15:40 Jeddah (SV)

16:00 Kuwait (KU)

18:20 Athens (OA)

21:00 Sana'a (LH)

PRAYER TIMES

08:30 Fajr

06:49 Sunrise/Dhuha

12:30 Dhuhr

15:24 Asr

17:50 Maghreb

19:10 Isha

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local sell/buy rates in Jds

Belgian franc ... 80.21/92.5

Dutch guilder ... 169.11/170.5

French franc ... 57.31/57.7

Italian lire ... 26/26.7

Japanese yen (for 100) ... 239.6/242.7

Swiss franc ... 53.4/53.8

U.K. sterling pound ... 572.4/587.8

U.S. dollar ... 340.3/343

W. German mark ... 190.9/195.2

WEATHER

It will be partly cloudy, with slight increase in temperature. Northerly moderate winds will become northerly westerly moderate. In Agaba, it will be partly cloudy, with chances of scattered showers. Southerly moderate winds will become northerly moderate and rough sea will become calm.

Min/max. temp.

Amman ... 10/20

Agaba ... 18/29

Deserts ... 9/22

Jordan Valley ... 20/25

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 19, Agaba 27, Humidity readings: Amman 65 per cent, Agaba 32 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Amman governorate ... 691228

Amman Civil Defence ... 198, 199

Civil Defence Jibid ... 271293, 273131

Civil Defence Quseinat ... 770733

Civil Defence Dera ... 371000

Ambulance ... 193, 775111

Amman downtown fire brigade ... 198

First aid ... 630341

Blind ... 778053

Civil Defence rescue ... 6611

Fire headquarters ... 622090

Police rescue ... 192, 621111, 637777

Police headquarters ... 639141

Traffic police ... 896901

Electric Power Co. ... 636384, 636881

Municipal water complaints ... 771258

Queen Alia Int. Airport (08)5333060

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre ... 813813/32

Khalid Maternity, J. Amn ... 643281/6

Arab standardisation panel opens meetings

AMMAN (Petra) — The 20th meeting of the general committee of the Arab Organisation for Standardisation and Metrology (AOSM) opened here on Saturday.

Delegates from 14 Arab countries will discuss a number of proposals for the AOSM programmes and will review a report by the organisation's director general.

The opening session was addressed by Minister of Public Works Mahmoud Hawamdeh, who said that this organisation, which was established by a 1967 Arab League decision, was designed to help coordinate the work of Arab World's economic, trade, industrial, health and agricultural sectors. Unified standards and specifications have facilitated the transfer of modern technology between Arab countries and, thus, have promoted their production and trade.

The minister paid tribute to AOSM for its efforts in providing training to Arab personnel, in helping to control the quality of manufactured goods and in documenting information.

He said that the organisation has offered training to 120 Arabs over the past 20 years in the fields of quality control and industry. He stressed that the AOSM's endeavours require continued support from member states if it is to progress and provide better services.

Later, Mahdi Hannonsh, secretary-general of the Amman-based organisation, addressed the meeting and outlined AOSM's achievements and programmes. He called on Arab countries to complete their financial commitments to the organisation and to provide continued support for its programmes.

Dr. Hannonsh also reviewed the agenda for the meeting and explained the training programmes offered to member states.

In 1968 AOSM began its efforts to unify technical terms and standard specifications for products such as food, cloth, fertilisers, building materials, oil, minerals, electrical products. The AOSM also assists in the establishment of national bodies and collaborates with organisations involved with international standards.

Red Crescent Society to assist flood area farmers

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) is extending in-kind assistance to the farmers and inhabitants of Shuneh area of the Jordan Valley, whose lands were damaged by the recent floods.

A JNRCS spokesman said that the decision was made by the society's president, Dr. Ahmad Abu Qoura. The spokesman added that, as of Monday, in-kind assistance will be distributed in the flood-stricken region. He said clothes and shoes, weighing nearly four tonnes, will be distributed under this programme.

Last Tuesday, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan toured

the stricken regions in South Shuneh and ordered the formation of a task force to deal with recovery from the floods and to extend urgent assistance to the local inhabitants.

On Thursday, the task force met under the chairmanship of Minister of Agriculture Marwan Ahmad to review recovery and assistance plans. The meeting decided on the formation of two subcommittees, one for the Jordan Valley and the other for Zarqa governorate, two regions most affected by the floods. Another meeting of the task force will be held on Wednesday before further steps are taken.

Cost of living index increases in September

AMMAN (Petra) — The cost of living index in Jordan last month registered a rise of 1.4 per cent over that of the previous month, August 1987, according to a statistical bulletin issued by the Department of Statistics.

It said that the rise in the cost of living index is due mainly to an increase in the prices of food at

the rate of 3.2 per cent and the prices of other commodities by 0.8 per cent, despite the decline in the price of clothes and footwear, which registered a drop of two per cent.

Over the first nine months of 1987, the index registered an overall rise of one per cent over the same period of 1986.

Municipality implements special detours for Arab summit traffic

AMMAN (J.T.) — As the extraordinary Arab summit draws near, initial traffic arrangements will be implemented in Amman today. According to sources in the Amman Municipality police, the primary purpose of the new detours is to facilitate traffic movement during the convening of the summit and to prevent any possible traffic jams.

The sources also said that special direction signs have already been put up on the main streets and intersections in order to avoid chaos. Drivers are advised to look out for the signs.

The areas affected are the following:

— From Shmeisani towards Abdali: Drivers taking a route from Shmeisani towards the Abdali or Jabal Hussein will drive through Dr. Muhammad Al Bashir Street, through the Urban Development intersection against set-traffic now, behind the Ministry of Industry, in front of Shmeisani Taxi office going right if heading towards Jabal Hussein or left in front of the Islamic Hospital if driving towards Abdali.

— From Shmeisani towards Jabal Amman: Drivers taking a route from Shmeisani towards Jabal Amman and towards the east and north of Amman will start today driving through Dr. Muhammad Al Bashir Street, Haya Arts Centre or the Urban Development intersection, through the tunnel towards the Third Circle, or driving through the Queen Noor Street, in front of the Civil Defence Department towards the Seventh Circle.

— From Abdali to Shmeisani:

Drivers will have to take the route from the road behind the Royal Jordanian offices, in front of the Parliament building through Suleiman Al Nahuli Street, towards the Haya Arts Centre sign. The exit in the dividing island has been closed in front of the Agricultural Credit Society, which leads towards the Urban Development Department.

— From Jabal Hussein towards Shmeisani: Drivers will take the route leading from Al Razi Street, driving towards Abdali and then taking the same route as from Abdali to Shmeisani.

— From Sweileh to Jabal Amman: Drivers will take the Medical City Street towards the Eighth Circle or the University Bridge, around the Jubilee Circle and then taking Mecca Street.

— From Sweileh towards Marka, Al Mahatta, downtown and Zarqa: Drivers will take the Sports City detours, towards the Martyrs Monument and to the traffic lights in front of the Public Security maintenance workshops.

— From downtown towards Shmeisani: Drivers who want to drive towards Shmeisani, Tia'a Al Ali, Um Al Sumag, Wadi Seer and Sweileh will have to drive through the Prince Mohammad Street, to the Wadi Saqra traffic lights.

— From Marka and Al Mahatta to different areas of Amman: Drivers will go through Ein Ghazal, Sports City or Al Nasha intersections, Al Istiqal Street, Sports College road and then take the Sports City diversions.

Happy driving!

French ship welcomed by captain

AMMAN (J.T.) — The captain of the French warship Oudot de Dainville, Victor Schoelcher, held a reception Saturday for the occasion of the ship's arrival in the port of Aqaba.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan addresses the Saturday opening session of a Symposium on Arab and Islamic history at the University of Jordan. The Crown Prince stressed the need for Arab intellectuals to rectify the distortion of Arab and Islamic history (Petra photo)

Prince Hassan pledges Jordan's support for United Nations goals

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Saturday expressed Jordan's readiness to assume an active role in pooling various experiences and expertise from around the world and putting them to practical use serving humanitarian causes and goals.

Prince Hassan was speaking during a visit to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) office in Amman on the occasion of the 42nd anniversary of the United Nations.

In his speech, the Crown Prince referred to the resemblance in the efforts of the Jordanian government and the United Nations, on the regional and local levels, to achieve development. He stressed the importance of coordination of efforts among the various Arab League and United Nations organisations.

Prince Hassan suggested initiating workshops, to be held in Jordan, for coordinating the work of Arab League and United Nations agencies. He referred to Jordan's efforts to reorganise its labour force and said that the

Economic and Social Committee for Western Asia (ESCWA) can play a major role towards this goal.

The Crown Prince also praised the role played by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) in providing services and assistance to the Palestinian refugees. He said that UNRWA's services should be supported and the international community should extend further help to UNRWA to enable the agency to improve services to the Palestinian refugees.

Prince Hassan also emphasised the importance of United Nations programmes benefiting Palestinian people living under Israeli occupation.

The Prince also said that Jordan pledges support for the United Nations Human Rights Commission.

Ali Atiq, U.N. resident representative in Jordan, had earlier welcomed Prince Hassan and praised the Prince's concern over the achievement of U.N. objectives.

Dr. Atiq paid tribute to Jordan's efforts in supporting the causes of justice, development and peace on the regional and international levels.

He also declared that \$10 million will be offered by UNDP to Jordan within a four-year comprehensive programme, once U.N. approval has been secured in February next year. This sum, Dr. Atiq noted, is in addition to allocations made earlier by the UNDP to assist Jordan in implementing its development projects.

Dr. Atiq said that UNDP programmes in Jordan aimed mainly at helping the country to develop its labour resources and to assist in the planning of projects. The UNDP is also involved in assessing the country's natural resources and in scientific research and the transfer of technology in agriculture, industry and health services.

Minister of Planning Taher Kanaan and heads of various U.N. agencies operating in Jordan were present at the meeting.

Abu Hassan returns from export talks in Bulgaria

AMMAN (J.T.) — Ghazi Abu Hassan, director-general of the Jordan Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company (JAMPCO) returned to Amman on Saturday after concluding a visit to Bulgaria.

During the visit, he held talks with officials on exporting Jordanian agricultural products to Bulgarian markets.

Last month, Mr. Abu Hassan said that JAMPCO plans to export 3,500 tonnes of Jordanian vegetables to six European countries in the coming agricultural season. He added that contacts are being made with other European countries in order to generate more sales.

Up to 700 tonnes of crops will be exported to Eastern as well as Western European countries in the coming season, Mr. Abu Hassan said.

Delegation returns from physiotherapy symposium

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Jordanian delegation has returned to Amman after attending a symposium at the Institute for Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation in Yugoslavia organised by Lufthansa and the Dr. S. Milosevic Institute.

The symposium was held at the city of Igalo in Yugoslavia under the slogan of "Health and Mineral Water for Physiotherapy."

The delegation was comprised of Dr. Qasem Al Zaqa, an internist, Dr. Joseph Janho, a cardiologist, Dr. Butros Tawil, a plastic surgeon at the Princess Basma Hospital, and representatives from the Al Ra'i and Al Dustour Arabic dailies.

The symposium included several lectures and the reading of research papers dealing with physiotherapy in West Germany and Yugoslavia, as well as documentary films featuring the most prominent centres for providing physiotherapy in these countries.

Doctors and specialists, university professors and journalists

from Syria, Egypt, Sudan, Oman, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Bahrain, in addition to Jordan, took part in the week-long symposium.

Also taking part were directors of and senior officials from Lufthansa, which has, thus, taken a pioneering step towards encouraging visits to mineral spas in Germany and Europe, at large.

This programme aims at providing a real service for people seeking to benefit from the therapeutic effects of mineral water in curing many diseases. For this reason, Lufthansa has set up specialised units to facilitate reservations and appointments for medical examinations, accommodation and other services.

The world has been showing increased interest in mineral water, whose therapeutic effects were first discovered by the Arabs in the 11th century A.D. Modern spas in Europe are now supplied with up-to-date equipment to help patients and visitors overcome health problems.

Iranians attack tanker carrying Saudi naphtha

(Continued from page 1)

from Senator John Kerry.

Mr. Weinberger refused to spell out the exact circumstances under which navy ships would aid other vessels or protect U.S.-owned shipping, saying he did not want to tip the U.S. hand in advance and provide information that could be used by Iran.

There have been several U.S.-Iranian incidents in the past two months. The most recent occurred Monday, when the navy destroyed two Iranian oil platforms used as military installations. That action came in retaliation for Iran's missile attack last week on one of the reflagged tankers.

There have also been attacks on ships that are owned by U.S. companies but registered in other nations, flying so-called "flags of convenience."

Navy officials have considered seeking a change in the "rules of engagement," the circumstances under which weapons can be fired, to permit protection of U.S.-owned ships. But there has not yet been any major change in those rules, Mr. Weinberger said.

He warned Iran against future attacks on U.S. shipping, echoing comments Mr. Reagan made Thursday night at a White House news conference.

"There will be a high cost to Iran if that nation continues to attack Gulf shipping, Mr. Weinberger said.

He called Monday's attack on the platforms "a specific response to a specific provocation."

It was "intended to demonstrate forcefully to Iran that its irresponsible, illegal behaviour in attacking non-belligerent merchant ships engaged in innocent commerce will not go unpunished," Mr. Weinberger testified. "There will be a high cost of these kind of attacks."

"Whether or not there are further actions of this sort is entirely up to Tehran," he added.

Mr. Weinberger also defended the administration's refusal to invoke the War Powers Act, the 1973 law that limits a president's authority to send troops to areas of imminent hostilities.

Again echoing Mr. Reagan, Mr. Weinberger said he believes the law is unconstitutional and said he would welcome a supreme court challenge.

Under repeated questioning, the defence secretary also said he doesn't believe that the navy is engaged in "hostilities" in the Gulf region, as least as defined by the war powers law.

Invoking the War Powers Act would "cast doubt over the staying power" of the United States in the Gulf by raising the possibility that Congress would vote against continuing the reflagging, Mr. Weinberger argued. In turn, that would raise doubts among U.S. allies about American commitments, he said.

In a prepared statement Mr. Weinberger reiterated U.S. objectives in the Gulf to:

— Maintain freedom of navigation for U.S.-flag vessels;

— Preserve free-world access

to the oil resources of the region;

— Promote the security and stability of the Gulf states in the face of Iranian intimidation and prevent the spread of Iranian radicalism; and

— Limit the expansion of Soviet influence in the region.

Mr. Pell, a Democrat, asked Mr. Weinberger if he agreed with a report released on Sunday by the Foreign Relations Committee that Iraq was in danger of losing the war to Iran.

"I don't think that intelligence reports that I'm familiar with support that conclusion," Mr. Weinberger said. "We don't see any suggestion that that is about to happen."

"We think the Iraqis have very strong defensive positions on the ground. We know they have unquestioned superiority in the air. They have... a capability of dealing with Iranian surface attack... they have greater tank strength," he said.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev said on Friday the U.S. naval presence in the Gulf was "understandable" and spoke of "constructive cooperation" between Moscow and Washington on the Gulf war, TASS reported.

TASS said Mr. Gorbachev had told visiting U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz that while the U.S. naval build-up in the Gulf had not helped the situation, "the argument that it was necessary to ensure the supply of oil is understandable to us."

Crown Prince calls for rewriting of Arab and Islamic history

By Jordan Times Staff Reporters

AMMAN — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said Saturday that Arab and Islamic history have been exposed to distortion and that it is the responsibility of Arab intellectuals to rewrite their history based on real and solid facts.

Prince Hassan, who was addressing the opening session of a conference on Bilad ul Shaam (Greater Syria) during the Umayyad period on behalf of His Majesty King Hussein, said that the present conference is designed to fill the gaps in and rectify historical facts which were intentionally distorted by enemies of the Arab Nation.

The Crown Prince referred to the fifth Islamic conference held in Kuwait last January, when King Hussein invited Arab and Islamic leaders to select an elite of scholars to develop a cultural programme that can serve as a lead for a genuine Arab renaissance.

King Hussein has given his full support for this objective approach to Arab history through such meetings by scholars from the Arab and Islamic worlds, Prince Hassan noted.

He called on scholars taking part in the conference to scrutinise historical events and to base their work on scientific foundations.

Prince Hassan referred to his recent visit to the United Nations in New York, where he presented a report by the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues. He said that the commission comprises members from various faiths and nationalities; yet they are all concerned with humanitarian issues.

The Prince voiced his pride that the idea of this commission originally emanated from Jordan — a country where people are known for their knowledge based on objectivity and open-mindedness.

Abdul Salam Al Majali, president of the University of Jordan where the six-day conference is being held, said in a speech at the opening session that the re-writing of Arab history entails tackling two aspects: one is to present a truthful image of the events of the past; the other is to learn for the benefit of the future.

History, Dr. Majali said, should be made to serve the present and the future. He added that this is a serious responsibility which is still to be undertaken by Arab and Islamic scholars. This conference should upon the way for scholars to undertake their task, Dr. Majali stressed.

Dr. Adnan Al Bakhit, dean of the Scientific Research Department of the University of Jordan, delivered an address underlining the importance of the Umayyad era in Arab history. He said it was during this era that the Arabs were able to spread their influence as far west as Spain.

The opening session was attended by Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Christian and Islamic leaders, heads of diplomatic missions, the presidents of the other Jordanian universities and other senior officials and prominent personalities.

Delegates from Sudan, Syria, Iraq, Kuwait, Lebanon, West Germany, France, the United Kingdom, the United States and Japan, in addition to Jordan are taking part in the conference.

All the participants invited by the University of Jordan are specialists on Greater Syria during the Umayyad period. "We survey specialists, or those who are studying the particular field we plan to tackle in our conference, and send invitations," Dr. Bakhit said. He voiced regret that none of the scholars the conference invited from the Soviet Union were able to attend.

This conference is part of a three-part conference on the history of Greater Syria. Dr. Bakhit explained that because of the width and depth of the subject, the conference's higher committee decided to divide the subject into three symposiums: "Greater Syria during Byzantine Times," held in 1983; "Greater Syria at the Outset of Islam," held in 1985; and the present symposium on "Greater Syria during the Umayyad Period." It is also the fourth conference on Greater Syria.

Dr. Bakhit, who initiated the idea in 1972, said that such conferences were deemed necessary for several reasons. The history of the Middle East region has not been comprehensively studied, and the creation of the state of Israel has subjected the region's history to distortion, according to Dr. Bakhit.

"If the history of Greater Syria is probed further, we will find that it is an accumulation of local, indigenous elements and foreign

alien attempts to penetrate or dominate the area," he said.

The pragmatic approach, based searching for historical fact to review and rectify the distortion, was included in three previous conferences: the first entitled "The History of Greater Syria until the End of the 10th Century," in 1974; followed by "The History of Greater Syria from the Beginning of the Ottoman Empire until the End of World War II," in 1979; and "The History of Palestine in All its Stages until 1980," held in 1980.

After the first conference, Damascus University, Yarmouk University and Mu'ta University expressed an interest in participating in the organisation and sponsorship of future conferences.

A higher committee, chaired by Prince Hassan and consisting of all parties including scholars from the University of Jordan and the director of the Department of Antiquities, is in charge of organising the conference, and supervising the publication of the conference's 38 working papers.

The conference has been described by Dr. Bakhit as "a unique experiment where you have Arab scholars with orientalist who have studied the area with affinity." He said that often orientalist have the impression that Arab scholars study Middle East history through the anecdotal approach. The conference offered them a different perception. "When they come here they realise that the standard and quality of Arab scholars is to be noted and reckoned with," Dr. Bakhit noted.

Several participants voiced their high expectations for the conference. Dr. Fred Donner, a specialist in Islam in Greater Syria and the Arabian Peninsula at the University of Chicago said "this conference gives me an opportunity to meet with Arab and European colleagues who I usually cannot see. The interchange of ideas is highly beneficial." During the working sessions, Dr. Donner will present a paper on "The Shura (police) in Early Umayyad Syria."

Another colleague, Dr. Gota Anira from the University of Tokyo, noted the importance of meeting other scholars in the same field and the exchange of opinions and views. Dr. Anira, who will discuss a paper on "Marwan B. Al Hakam, his Supporters and his Bayt."

Paintings and drawings reveal Randa Berouti's sensitivity to her surroundings

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The paintings and drawings on show at the Petra Bank Art Gallery this week, although ranging widely in subject and media, all point to one quality — a deep sensitivity — in their creator, Randa Berouti.

This sensitivity is seen in Berouti's still lifes, which, with great economy, give the essence of the objects. It is seen in her landscapes, which capture not only the flow of the land and the way it is lit by the sun at different times of the day, but also surprising and important details. It is also seen in her abstracts and her delightful collages and, thus, this sensitivity becomes the hallmark of her show.

Berouti, a self-taught artist, finds inspiration in the sights and sounds all around her. The views framed by her windows, her studio with its easels, patterned quilts and paints, the fruit and vegetables in her kitchen and the way the light shines off the recently cleaned floor will all stop her in her tracks, make her pick up her pen and pencil and begin her work.

This wide, open awareness of her surroundings is matched by an ability to get what she sees and feels into fine pieces, like the still lifes of pomegranates, peaches and aubergines which are caught in just a few fresh and free brushstrokes of watercolour as they lay either on an old straw tray recognisable only by its patterns or in a rough, primitive clay bowl. Then there is the cleverly unfinished but meticulously rendered coloured pencil drawing of the single rose in a blue Hebronite glass vase, touched by light. And the fine and witty pencil

drawing of the stack of wooden chairs — a mass of curving wooden legs.

Equally good, but more elaborate than these centrally-placed compositions are the paintings of objects like candlesticks and heavy, silver bedouin bracelets set off against the interesting transparency of the embroidered edge of a plastic tablecloth. The blocks of bright colour add a touch of abstraction, breaking up the reality, confirming the piece as art, rather than just a literal reproduction.

This desire to break up reality is seen more clearly in pieces such as "Artist's Room," which captures the bright, early morning sunlight flooding the space, bleaching all the colours away except a few patches of the lively patchwork quilt and the strong colours of the oil painting on the easel in the background. The result is a starkness balanced and compensated by the richness of the widely-spaced patterns — a result which is both pleasing and inspiring.

The artist's landscapes of the

many places she has visited, like Petra, Jerash, Jerusalem, the Jordan Valley, while good are eclipsed by those painted and drawn of the places where she has spent some time, like Ainah in Lebanon, whose thickly-wooded groves of pines she paints again and again, capturing the movement and texture of the old trees, the deep forest litter and the soft, restless patterns of light through the leaves. The hazy, faded pictures of Beirut convey a sense of the dilapidation of a city worn out by war, while the paintings of Amman catch the sculpture of the downtown buildings, the intricacies of the winding stairs, the patchwork of windows.

Completing the exhibition are two collages which are, without doubt, among the best works on display. Entitled "Dusk or the Pink Room" and "Interiors. Exteriors" these small works, made up of clippings of paper and of cut up pieces of Berouti's own paintings, are delicate, abstract compositions of subtle shades and tones that are a delight to the eye and the senses.

Arab housing ministers show resolve towards joint action

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Arab Housing Ministers, which concluded its meetings in Tunis this week, strongly condemned recent Iranian attacks against Arab countries and residential areas in Iraq, according to Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Youssef Hamdan Al Jaber.

The minister returned to Amman on Friday after heading Jordan's delegation to these meet-

ings. Mr. Jaber said that the council made a number of decisions aimed at joint Arab action in the housing sector, among which was a decision to support the Amman-based Jerusalem Centre.

He added that the council has also decided to translate into English and French and publish an Arab League study on Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories.

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U.N. anniversary: Mourning or rejoicing

THE INTERNATIONAL community on Saturday marked the 42nd anniversary of the United Nations. Many world leaders issued statements and sent messages to the U.N. to mark the occasion. The central theme of these statements and messages was not one of tribute to the U.N., however. Rather, they included lamentations over the world body's failure to settle international conflicts through dialogue — the very goal of and aspiration behind the creation of the U.N. on Oct. 24, 1945. The truth that stares us in the face today, 42 years after the League of Nations took a new, dramatic shape as the United Nations, is that, over the years, the world body has seen its stature eroding and its authority and self-respect diminishing, rendering it incapable of any serious venture towards settling global conflicts.

Countless resolutions on various international issues have passed through the impressive General Assembly and Security Council halls of the U.N.; but, more often than not, the resolutions remained only ink on paper. Not because U.N. officials were lacking in enthusiasm or sincerity, but because very few countries chose to respect the international will or to cooperate with the world body when it came to issues directly affecting them. Furthermore, the inevitable involvement of one or more of the five permanent members of the Security Council in any given conflict around the world worked against the international community's interest of ensuring justice. Further damaging the entire structure of the U.N. is the noncompliance of member states to their financial obligations to the international organisation. As a result of procrastinations by many member states over meeting their financial commitments, the U.N. found itself, on many occasions, too preoccupied with its monetary problems to effectively deal with many important issues.

We, in the Arab World, have been among those denied justice despite the numerous resolutions passed on the crisis of the region's conflicts, the Palestinian problem. Israel, with the strong backing of its superpower ally, has shown no respect for the U.N. as an institution nor for the international will as such. If anything, the Jewish state is bent upon a course of violating all accepted international norms and laws in open defiance of condemnations by the world community.

At this point in time, there is very little in the horizon resembling a successful U.N. effort to implement its resolutions on the Palestinian problem and we do not know whether to mourn or rejoice on the occasion of the world body's 42nd anniversary. But if the world community chooses to address the ineffectiveness of the U.N. and overhaul its structure towards the greater goal of global peace and harmony, we may have something to celebrate in the future.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: King evaluates U.N. achievements

KING Hussein in a message to the United Nations on its 42nd anniversary emphasised Jordan's commitment to the organisation's objectives and basic principles which are in harmony with the Arab Nation's traditions and values. The King was careful to mention that despite achievements the U.N. organisation had in the fields of agriculture, labour, culture and other fields, it has failed to achieve its aspirations in full, especially in the diplomatic and political fields. The United Nations, the King said, has not yet helped the international community to achieve justice based on legitimacy and has not been able to resolve international conflicts and stop countries from launching aggression on other countries' territory. The United Nations, the King stressed, shoulders a serious responsibility which should not be obstructed by aggressive nations. The King said the United Nations has not been able to overcome obstacles laid down by hostile forces that oppose the convening of an international peace conference on the Middle East. The United Nations is thus unable to implement its resolutions designed to bring about peace to the Middle East. It is regrettable that the U.N. principles have been violated by the United States which has forgotten the principles of freedom and justice, which continues to contradict the basic rules laid down by the world community.

Al Dustour: Jordan committed to U.N.

IN a message to the United Nations organisation, the King said that Jordan which had joined the world body in 1955 continues to be committed to its principles and objectives. Jordan the King said, continues to encourage all nations to abide by the rules and the principles laid down by the community of nations which established the organisation and its charter. On the U.N. 42nd anniversary, Jordan remembers all the good services, this organisation has offered to the world at large through its various agencies specially in the fields of education, health, labour, food and agriculture — all of them fields that benefit mankind. But one of the important fields which the United Nations has been tackling since its inception 42 years ago, is the diplomatic and political aspects related to various nations and this is designed to help nations settle their disputes by peaceful means and also to organise relations between the members of the world community. The United Nations is also concerned with the establishment of world peace but despite its achievements and accomplishments the United Nations is still confronted with serious problems that threaten peace. The 20th century during which this organisation was established has been witnessing continuous conflicts which the world community seems unable to handle. Despite all of that Jordan continues to be committed to the organisation's objectives and goals.

Sawt Al Shaab: King praises U.N.

THE King sent a message to the United Nations on its 42nd anniversary praising its work over the past years and its endeavours to achieve the aspirations of mankind. In his message the King referred to Jordan's stand towards this organisation and its efforts to help its various agencies to achieve their programmes and their goals. Jordan, the King said in his message, has always called on other nations to cooperate in the implementation of the U.N. resolutions and achieve this organisation's principles and goals. He said despite these endeavours the U.N. has not been able to achieve its goals in full and obstacles are continually being laid in its path. The King cited the Middle East problem as one of the issues which the U.N. has not been able yet to deal with and also the Iran-Iraq war which still rages causing the loss of many lives. In his message the King presented an outlook for the future and outlined the areas where the world community can cooperate to help achieve stability and peace.

Reagan, Gorbachev playing brinkmanship game on INF treaty

By Valerie Strauss
Reuter

WASHINGTON — The superpowers' failure to seal a proposed deal to eliminate medium range missiles and set a summit date is the result of "Star Wars" brinkmanship that could doom the arms pact, experts say.

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz announced in Moscow on Friday the superpowers are still at odds on key details of an intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) treaty and had been unable to schedule a summit at which the pact would be signed.

The key sticking point is President Reagan's space- and land-based "Star Wars" anti-missile defence system, which has dogged U.S.-Soviet relations since Reagan unveiled it in 1983 as the cornerstone of U.S. defence strategy into the next century.

Reagan says the system would make the world safer by making nuclear weapons obsolete. Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev says it heralds a dangerous arms race in space and wants it stopped.

"Gorbachev wants seriously to limit Star Wars and he is using his limited leverage with INF to do it," says Raymond Garthoff, an arms control expert at the Brookings Institution and a key negotiator of the 1973 anti-ballistic missile (ABM) treaty that limits such defensive systems.

"I wouldn't write off an INF treaty yet but it is possible both sides could wait too long before compromising and the opportu-

ity for a treaty will be lost," he said.

Garthoff and arms control expert William Taylor of the Centre for Strategic and International Studies said the two leaders are playing a game of brinkmanship. Taylor said Gorbachev started

the contest and is playing it better than Reagan.

"This was predictable. The Soviet game plan from the beginning was to build up psychological expectations in the United States and Western Europe and then stonewall to get everything

they want," he told Reuters.

"The Soviets know what the hell they are doing. We don't. We are divided internally and the rest of the world knows it. The Soviets will exploit that advantage and that was their game plan from the very beginning," Taylor

said.

Other analysts said Friday's developments were only a temporary snag.

"We keep getting into the ridiculous situation of getting our hopes up and then thinking things have collapsed when they don't

happen right on schedule," said a White House aide who asked not to be identified.

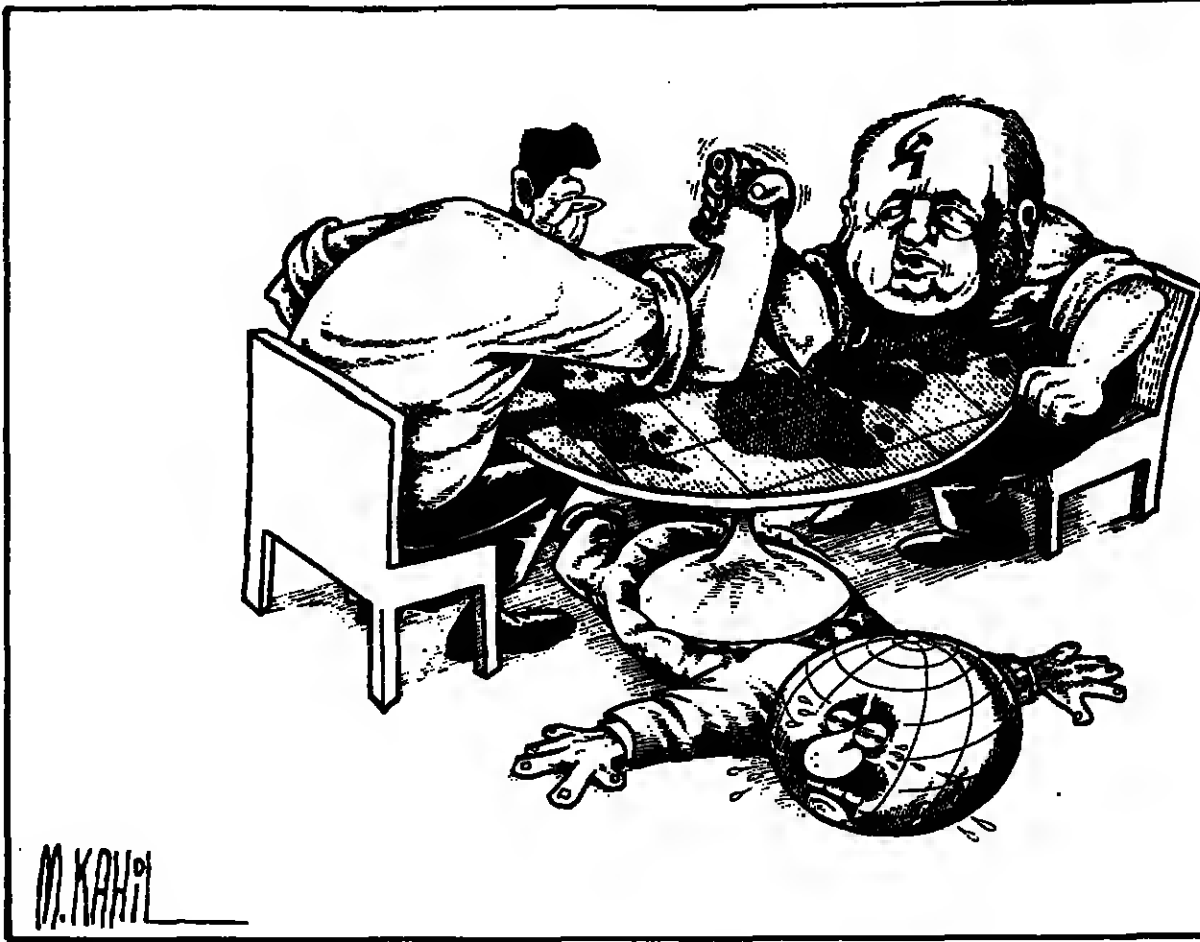
Shultz's announcement Friday was seen as a setback because U.S. and Soviet officials had expected him to bring home the first arms control treaty of Reagan's presidency and a date for a third Reagan-Gorbachev summit.

Reagan told a news conference on Thursday night that he wanted a summit with Gorbachev "very much."

Garthoff and Taylor said it is still possible there will be an INF agreement, but will come only after difficult negotiations and an end to the brinkmanship game. "It is possible to reach a treaty but it will be much more difficult to achieve than anyone thought even a week ago. It is also possible the whole thing will collapse," Taylor said.

"I think Gorbachev and Reagan want a treaty and a summit. But to the extent that each is trying to be technically tough, they may find their tough tactics ultimately frustrate an INF agreement and a summit," said Garthoff.

He said Gorbachev runs the risk of overplaying his hand. "If Reagan thinks Gorbachev is trying to roll him over a barrel now that he is in a weak position with the stock market falling, he may try to dig in his heels and may attempt to strengthen his position with conservatives who oppose the treaty," Garthoff added.



Experts say U.S. Gulf plan backfires

By Christopher Hanson
Reuter

WASHINGTON — The U.S. naval build-up in the Gulf was supposed to ensure free navigation and curb Soviet influence but experts say it has backfired, increasing danger to shipping and Soviet inroads in Iran.

On July 21 Washington began Gulf naval escorts for U.S.-flag tankers belonging to Kuwait, a backer of Iraq in its seven-year-old war with Iran.

Since then there have been 49 attacks on shipping by Iran and Iraq. That was a one-third increase from the 38 strikes the two launched in the previous 14 weeks, according to the Centre for Defence Information (CDI), a private think-tank.

A Senate report issued this week said Tehran had been driven closer to the Soviet camp since the escorts began because

Washington had tilted decisively toward Iraq.

In response to Iranian mining and other attacks the U.S. force has grown from a small escort squadron to a 30-ship, 20,000-man force including a battleship and aircraft carrier.

"It raises the level of violence all around," former U.S. Middle East diplomat Henry Schuler said of the build-up.

A U.S. diplomat and Middle East expert, who spoke on condition he not be identified, said the U.S. Gulf operation had invited Iranian attacks on shipping because the Americans were shielding Kuwait but doing nothing to stop Iraqi attacks on Iran's oil tankers.

Last week Chinese-made Silk-worm missiles hit a U.S.-owned Liberian-flag tanker and a U.S.-flag Kuwaiti tanker in Kuwait's territorial waters.

Washington blamed Iran and retaliated, destroying an Iranian oil rig it said was being used for military purposes.

Iran vowed revenge and on Thursday a missile struck Kuwait's main oil terminal. But the United States, while condemning Iran, said it would not retaliate because no U.S. ships were involved.

After the U.S. escort plan was made public last May, Iran laid mines in the Gulf and launched speedboat attacks on international shipping "to make trading nations pay a price for support going to Iraq," the U.S. diplomat said.

"The message is clear — the war is going to affect everybody's interests," he said.

The analysts say the U.S. presence has helped push Gulf Arab states, which fear the spread of Iran's radical Islamic fun-

damentalism, closer to war. They cite the attacks on targets in Kuwait and the following:

— Iran dispatched a 60-gun-boat flotilla toward an oil field owned by Saudi Arabia and Kuwait early this month. It turned back after Arab and U.S. forces intercepted it.

— Kuwait and Saudi Arabia have assembled a strike force of planes and helicopters to beat back Iranian attacks at sea, according to the Washington Post.

— Kuwaiti jets dropped live bombs in a show of strength during manoeuvres this week.

— Officials in Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates said they want to buy U.S. Stinger anti-aircraft missiles, according to the Senate report, released by the foreign relations committee.

U.N. investigates charge that military data was passed on to Tehran

By Warren Getler

LONDON — U.N. officials are investigating allegations by the president of a company specialising in analysis of satellite data who says he gave valuable military intelligence to Iran this month under the impression that he was giving it to the United Nations.

Peter Fend, the founder of Ocean Earth Construction and Development Corp., acknowledged that he was "naive." But he said in interviews that he approached the United Nations in New York out of a spirit of idealism and because his company was looking for "constructive" business.

Mr. Fend said his company, which is based in New York, believed that its satellite data could be used by the United Nations in monitoring a cease-fire in the Gulf war.

Instead, he said, a senior U.N. official from Pakistan, Iqbal Riza, organised a meeting at U.N. headquarters with two officials of the Iranian Foreign Ministry. They were identified as Mojtaba Mirzadeh, deputy minister for legal affairs, and Mohammad Mahallati, director general for international affairs.

Mr. Fend acknowledged that he knew he would be meeting with Iranian officials, but said he assumed the meeting would be held under the auspices of the

United Nations and monitored by its officials.

Instead, Mr. Fend said, the only U.N. representative present was a videotape technician.

A U.N. spokesman, Joe Sills, said the organisation had begun an investigation of Mr. Fend's allegations.

"The matter regarding the relationship between the U.N. and Ocean Earth is being looked by senior officials," he said.

Mr. Riza, a director of the Office of the Undersecretaries-General for Special Political Affairs, confirmed that he had put Ocean Earth in touch with the Iranians.

"I did arrange for the meeting in the U.N.," he said in a telephone interview. "The U.N. is a public place."

Mr. Riza said the link between Ocean Earth and Iran, as far as he was concerned, was merely commercial. "It is between them and the Iranians," he said.

Mr. Sills said Ocean Earth contacted the United Nations a couple of years ago about the possibility of using satellite photography for monitoring a cease-fire.

"We looked at it, but did not feel it would be of use," he said.

"This year, Ocean Earth came back to us with some updated material, and they also requested that they be placed in touch with the Iranians."

"We did do and arranged for them to show a tape on Friday Oct. 9, at the U.N. using U.N. screening facilities," he said.

"Officials from the Iranian U.N. mission had asked us to set up the screening," Mr. Sills said. "If any member of the U.N. asks us to do this, we normally would comply, it would be routine."

There was never supposed to be a member of the Undersecretaries-General office in attendance. What happens between Iran and this company is totally their concern.

Mr. Fend said that the Iranian officials asked Ocean Earth to deliver a 30-minute videotape of images from the Shatt-al-Arab waterway, which lies on the front with Iraq. He said the Iranians agreed they wanted the images for military purposes.

"We told the Iranians that we were not here to do business with Iran, we're here to do business with the U.N.," Mr. Fend said. "Nothing is going to be delivered to anybody except through the U.N., and that means Iraq and all other U.N. members would have access to the material."

Nevertheless, Mr. Fend asserts that valuable information was passed to the Iranians, including details of recent fortifications.

He said "it could be very useful" for missile targeting and other military purposes. The meeting "ended up being an in-

telligence transfer to Iran — courtesy of the U.N."

Images shown during the meeting, Mr. Fend said, included video recordings of photographic displays obtained from the U.S. civilian satellite, Landsat, and from Spot Image SA the French civilian satellite agency.

He said that the Ocean Earth analysis of the data from the Gulf war zone reveals, among other things, construction of an Iraqi canal that bypasses Fish Lake, a strategic barrier along the southern Iraq-Iran border, where most of the ground fighting is concentrated.

Ocean Earth has retrieved land images, including those of war zones and environmental hot spots, such as Chernobyl in the Soviet Union, from civilian satellites since the early 1980s. It has sold the data and analyses to news media and research institutes, including the British Broadcasting Corp. and CBS Television. Governments have not been among its customers, Mr. Fend said.

Mr. Fend also accused Mr. Riza of passing on to the Iranians an earlier videotape of satellite images from the war zone that his company had made for demonstration purposes. He is demanding that the United Nations pay \$30,000 for the tape — International Herald Tribune.

'The year of Middle East peace'

SEVERAL HUNDRED leading Israelis and prominent British Jews have signed a declaration calling for a negotiated peace between Israel and the Palestinians based on "mutual recognition, territorial compromise and self-determination."

"There must be an end to the prolonged Israeli-Arab conflict, to terror and violence, bloodshed and suffering and to the rule of one people over another," they declared, adding: "The conflict cannot be resolved by force. We

call on all sides to forego the use of violence of any kind."

Signatories to the declaration, issued by the Tel Aviv-based International Centre for Peace in the Middle East (ICPME), include 65 present and former members of the Knesset (parliament) ten former cabinet ministers, the mayors of Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Haifa, fifteen Israeli army reserve generals and former heads of Israeli military intelligence.

In Britain, the declaration was

carried in major newspapers under the signatures of 47 prominent Jewish personalities, including Lord Lever, The Hon David Astor, Sir Isaiah Berlin, Michael Latham MP, Rabbi Julia Neuberger, Lord Sieff, Harold Pinter, Tom Stoppard and Lord Weidenfeld.

Only a peace along the lines proposed could "guarantee the security of Israel, the realisation of Palestinian aspirations and regional stability," said the declaration, urging the two sides to the

conflict to "overcome the barriers of enmity and open negotiations for peace without preconditions". It concluded: "Let this be the year of peace in the Middle East."

ICPME groups scholars, politicians, religious leaders, businessmen and others committed to the attainment of peace through education and dialogue between Israelis and Palestinians. Its officers include the former Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban — CAABU.

LETTERS

An frau Habib

To the Editor:

REFERENCE is made to Randa Habib's article "Bizarre Bazaars" (Jordan Times, October 12, 1987).

The group of "German Speaking Ladies" (about 40 active) started early 1985 and attracts people of all nationalities who are capable of speaking the German language. During regular meetings we offer a variety of interesting activities: Apart from getting to know each other, we help newcomers to get acquainted with their new surroundings, offer them a first glance at the Jordanian way of life, and share hobby and discussion groups. During these three years it has become a tradition to organise a Christmas bazaar not only for charity but also to give an opportunity to join in a typical German Christmas atmosphere for our families and friends. It is our aim to display as many interesting items as possible prepared privately by our group and our friends. We realise that our foodstuff is an attraction to a number of people and so we try to arrange for this also.

Based on previous experience we would point out that donations for raffle prizes were very generous and made up almost half of the total income. Especially last year we asked three shops to help us with our bazaar and their donations (the fee of JD 5 was just one part) were highly appreciated.

The figures and facts mentioned by Randa Habib actually do not correspond with the facts. We — such a small group — never raised the sum of JD 5,000; the profit, which was all given to charitable organisations (sorry, so far not SOS), yielded on the average JD 1,200. Could it be that Randa Habib after all did not mean the German Speaking Ladies?

Perhaps Ms. Habib would like to come to our next bazaar in December and see our activities for herself.

The Committee of the
"German Speaking Ladies"
P.O. Box 2273, Amman

Think charity

To the Editor:

I WAS intrigued by Randa Habib's article "Bizarre Bazaars" (Jordan Times, Oct. 12, 1987).

What is charity? I believe a thought about "charity" could explain the way some bazaars are handled in Amman these days.

Charity is for the general good of mankind. In the past, it was a donation, a direct transaction of money from the people of comfortable means to the poor. Charity means giving without any material gain to oneself.

In our present time, war and suffering, rather than peacetime living, can mobilise human readiness to sacrifice, to donate, since the times of peace mainly seem to encourage selfishness. Many people can be motivated only by the expectation of personal material advantage and gain, as otherwise they do not react to appeals for donations.

Some of the Amman bazaars should be called "markets" as the organisers charge a rental fee for the stand, or a small share in the "profits." If only 25 per cent of the earnings of a bazaar go to charity, I would have to spend JD 250 to see a mere JD 60 go to, say, support one child at the SOS village. Would it not make common sense if I went directly to SOS with my money and support 4 children instead?

Charity bazaars are for the lady who sold a cake she baked at home, the painter who traded a canvas she created, the craftsman who donated his work-of-art, and who gave all the proceeds to charity.

Let us hope that bazaars go back to what they used to be: in the words of Randa Habib: "A place where people in the name of charity buy goods donated by benevolent people."

Mrs. Claire De La Plume
Amman

Human rights

To the Editor:

I HAVE just discovered that the United States Congress has a so-called human rights committee.

This is good news, especially if there were a one-per-cent chance that the said Committee would send some of its members on a fact-finding mission to the occupied Arab territories.

George Khoury
P.O. Box 17006
Amman

Parliament pledges full support for King's policies

(Continued from page 1)

throne during two consecutive meetings with the speakers and members of the Senate and the Lower House at the Royal Court. Senate Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi presented the Senate's reply in an 18-page letter, while the Lower House's 13-page reply was presented by Speaker Akel Al Fayed.

Last Saturday, both Houses met in separate sessions and endorsed their respective replies which were drafted by a three-member Senate committee and a six-member Lower House panel. Karak Deputy Riad Al Nawaiseh was the only member in the House to express some reservations over a number of ideas included in the reply.

Following are major excerpts of the reply of the Upper House of Parliament to the speech from the throne:

"The Upper House of Parliament is honoured to present to Your Majesty its deep and sincere appreciation for the speech from the throne which contained the Senate's efforts and accomplishments in the framework of the close cooperation between the legislative and executive authorities in Jordan.

"The Upper House pledges to remain loyal to the throne, adhering to the tenets of the Jordanian Constitution so that the nation can achieve its aspirations under your wise leadership and guidance.

"Since Your Majesty assumed your constitutional powers, this country witnessed comprehensive development covering public services and social and economic sectors from which the Jordanian citizens have been benefitting. Your Majesty had been leading the successive governments of Jordan and directing their steps through speeches from the throne providing guidance in all domains based on principles designed to achieve unity, freedom and a better life.

"The speech from the throne delivered to Parliament offered yet another example of assessing the achievements of Jordan, a presentation of the present situation and an outlook for the future.

"This country, with its limited resources and manpower but with big aspirations and goals, has been striving to carry out priorities through successive governments guided by Your Majesty's directives. The government's main priorities in this respect can be summed up in the following:

"Preserving internal security which means providing security and peace for all citizens of this country, and protecting their property and dignity and human rights and also achieving justice within the framework of the independent judicial authority;

"Defending the Kingdom in the face of any threats and dangers which are mainly represented in the continued Israeli occupation of Arab land and Israel's denial of the rights of the Palestinian people and its arbitrary measures against the Arab population, its drive to Judaize Arab territory and confiscate Arab lands and water resources, and its acts of sacrilege at religious shrines and establishing settlements on Arab land. The Palestine question continues to form the axis of Jordan's general policy and this has been represented in Jordan's continued support and assistance to the Arab population of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"Providing utmost care to public services in all Jordanian cities and villages and population settlements and improving living conditions for all people;

"Working diligently towards increasing agricultural and industrial production and promoting tourism and also increasing the contribution of the all sectors to the national revenue and distribution of all development benefits to all people in a fair manner so that hunger and need will vanish from our society;

"Enhancing the principles of economic integration and cooperation within the Jordanian society and between Jordan and other Arab states through trade agreements and joint ventures and the exchange of expertise and information;

"Modernising legislations governing the civil service and enhancing the local government to ensure popular participation in the decision-making process.

"The government has given most of its attention to these priorities and has been striving to ensure all means for strengthening the Armed Forces and setting up a People's Army, in addition to enhancing the capabilities of the internal security system, improving educational, health and social welfare services, building roads, and housing units, laying water and electricity networks and reviving the work of informa-

tion, culture and youth services.

"The government has been following up efforts designed to implement the current economic and social development plan and has worked out a comprehensive plan for supporting the steadfastness of the Arab people in the Israeli-held Arab territories.

"The government has been pursuing efforts to modernise the civil service system in the country.

"The Upper House expresses its full support for the government which has been striving to meet its commitments despite the meagre financial resources and pressing demands and despite the deficit in the budget and the foreign reserves situation.

"The government is facing all this as the country is standing along the longest confrontation lines with the enemy and the rising cost of supporting the steadfastness of the Arab people under Israeli rule and in the face of the unstable regional and international economies.

"This being the case the Upper House calls on Arab countries to honour their financial commitments to Jordan and help this country overcome its difficult circumstances. The House also urges the Arab states to respond to the call of national duty towards Jordan which is considered the first defence line for the Arab World.

"In addition to these fixed priorities, the government has been handling additional tasks some of which are:

"(1) Educational development: This is being done because one third of the country's population is acquiring education from kindergarten to university stage. The other two-thirds of the population are also linked to the education process and its standards and results, specially as many educated people and university and community college graduates have become unemployed.

"In view of the population and education explosion this country is witnessing and the prevalence of technology and sciences it has become natural for the government to undertake measures designed to modernise the educational process to make it more feasible for and more conforming to the needs of the future.

"For this reason a national education conference was held and studies conducted under your guidance and that of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

"The Upper House refers with appreciation to the government's current construction of 115 schools and its plans for setting up 165 more. These schools provide a better educational atmosphere and are designed to prolong the school day providing better education.

"(2) The government's recently concluded agreement with Syria to set up the Al Wabdhah Dam is to be considered as a major achievement. All Jordanian development projects had yearned for water resources and cheap electric power that would be produced from the dam. For this reason the Upper House welcomes and approves of the agreement and wishes the project all success.

"(3) The Upper House also deeply appreciates the government's endeavours to work out a new law for the higher court of justice, to establish the National Medical Institution and the national data system, to exploit natural gas, and to help promote the municipalities carry out their task and implement public services.

"(4) The Upper House strongly believes that the first and foremost objective of the Great Arab Revolt was and will always be unity among the Arabs and also believes that there can be no security and freedom without this unity. No Arab citizen can enjoy dignity or rights without this nation to which we all belong and which is united through religion, language, history, heritage, common interest and common destiny.

"The Arab Order has been exposed over the past few years to elements of division, and has been suffering as a result of the lack of joint action. To deal with all this Your Majesty took the initiative to rally the Arabs together by calling for an Arab summit meeting in Amman in a true show of commitment to the Arab Nation's unity and to serving its higher interests. Arab information media have been pouring praise on this step and your personal efforts in ending differences among Arab leaders and narrowing their differences to pave the ground for their meeting.

"The Upper House of Parliament extends all appreciation to Your Majesty for this relentless effort and wishes all success for the coming summit.

"(5) The Upper House wishes to point out that Iran's hostile

attitude towards Kuwait, the Iranian-perpetrated events during the pilgrimage season in Mecca and Iran's refusal to accept U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 ending the Gulf conflict are all indicators of the Tehran regime's ambitions in Arab land.

"The Upper House also views the Israeli-Iranian conspiracy as directed towards dismembering the eastern flank of the Arab World prior to imposing domination and hegemony and pillaging the Arab land's resources and wealth.

"The current events prove the soundness of Jordan's views of the situation and its call for supporting Iraq against this racist invasion and also its endeavours to end the Gulf war which can only benefit Israel and the enemies of the Arab Nation, warmongers and the merchants of death.

"The Upper House voices its admiration of the Iraqi Armed Forces and also supports Iraq's acceptance of the U.N. Security Council resolution to end the war with Iran.

"(6) Your Majesty's call for an international peace conference on the Middle East has received favourable response in view of Your Majesty's wisdom and in appreciation of your views about conflicts and your concern over the establishment of peace and security.

"For this reason, the idea of the conference has been accepted worldwide as the only effective tool for establishing a comprehensive peace based on justice. It is regrettable to see Israel still adamant in its position and persistent on pursuing aggression and implementing settlement plans, thus creating a deadlock in the search for peace.

"The Upper House believes that the occupation of Arab land and the denial of the rights of the Palestinian people and continued aggression on the part of Israel would not have lasted for long, had Israel not been receiving support and financial, and military assistance.

"(7) The Upper House of Parliament has studied Your Majesty's decision for extending the present mandate of Parliament for two more years to allow sufficient time for registration of voters and ample preparations for a general election. The Upper House appreciates this step and your keenness on expanding the base of popular and democratic representation in Parliament.

Following are major excerpts from the Lower House of Parliament's reply to the King's speech from the throne:

"The Lower House of Parliament believes in comprehensive cooperation between the two ruling arms, legislative and executive, aiming at reaching all what is for the good of the Kingdom and its citizens and will continue on this path so that cooperative work will continue to be in harmony with the political principles of leadership which were laid down by you and which always aim at establishing solid foundations for decent living, economic and social prosperity for all citizens of the Kingdom.

"The Lower House supports your government's willingness for continue to maintain a secured domestic front as a solid and consolidated force and endorses the government's scheme to further supply the public security organisations with advanced facilities and upto date security systems.

"Under your wise leadership, Jordan has made cultural strides in virtually every walk of life, especially in the fields of education, judiciary affairs, health and youth care, religious guidance, tourism, municipal services, housing, communications and transport, agriculture, electricity, water, irrigation and energy.

"Your government's accomplishments in organising health services and ensuring the application of the most ideal method to deliver services to all parts of your prosperous Kingdom by building hospitals, opening clinics, and delivering water and electricity services are highly appreciated by the Lower House.

"We also appreciate your government's efforts to execute the national project for oil exploration as well as what has already been discovered in the areas of energy and natural gas, and the different studies made in the areas of energy substitutes such as oil shale, sand oil, and solar energy.

"The Lower House will not forget to thank your government for its large efforts, under your guidance to reach an agreement with Syria for the utilisation of the water of the Yarmouk River, and building the Al Wabdhah dam which has been everybody's dream for more than 30 years. The House supports and blesses this agreement for all the importance it holds in increasing our

water reserves, generating hydro-electric power and expanding agricultural land in addition to what has been achieved in similar projects to complete Arab economic integrity. The House also thanks Syria for its brotherly response and cooperation which lead to the signing of this agreement.

"The Lower House fully appreciates and supports Your Majesty's constant efforts to liberate the occupied land, its people and holy places. We support Your Majesty's outlook and policy on the Palestine issue, which has and will always constitute an axis of Jordan's local and foreign policy.

"On the local level, the Kingdom is constantly supporting the steadfastness of people living under occupation through its development plan for the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"In the context of diplomatic efforts to confront Israeli acts of aggression Jordan has been denouncing the Jewish state's practices on all international levels.

"The House voices total appreciation for Your Majesty's and the government's constant efforts and work towards rallying support for the convening of an international peace conference on the Middle East problem. As a result of these intense efforts, international support for the conference, to be attended by all parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict and the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council, has been widening despite Israel's intransigence regarding the conference and its refusal to implement U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

"Jordan's clear stand on and support of Iraq in its war against the Iranian aggressors who have forced their Muslim people to enter the dispute and who have refused to accept world efforts to end the conflict as reflected in U.N. Security Council Resolution 598, is a clear indication of Jordan's national and deep-rooted policy which refuses any bargaining at the expense of the Arab Nation.

"The Lower House agrees with Your Majesty that the Arab Order is still witnessing fragmentation and disintegration either through foreign aggression or through inter-Arab disputes. The government has undertaken various strides under the directives of Your Majesty to clear inter-Arab disputes and to unite the Arab stand. These efforts were crowned by the Arab choice of Amman as the Arab capital to host the urgent Arab summit meeting and came in appreciation of Jordan and Your Majesty's efforts to regain Arab solidarity.

"The Lower House welcomes the Amman summit and all Arab leaders and prays to God that the meeting will unite the Arab stand for the benefit of the Arab Nation and the Arab people.

"The House sees the government's point that the period between enacting the 1986 law on elections and its implementation was too short. Hence came Your Majesty's decision to extend the Lower House's present term to allow more time for voters to register their names and for more preparations for the forthcoming elections. On this occasion, we promise Your Majesty to continue our march and cooperation with the executive branch.

"We, the representatives of the people on the two Banks, thank Your Majesty for your royal trust vested in us."



The walls of Babylon as they stood two years ago before restoration (File photo)

Babylon resurrection celebrated in international atmosphere

By Najwa Najjar

The writer recently returned from Baghdad after attending Babylon's first cultural festival.

BAGHDAD: The one month cultural extravaganza which brought to life the 4000 year old capital of old Mesopotamia ended Thursday drawing worldwide attention to the ancient heritage and culture of Babylon.

Forty groups from as far away as China and Afghanistan and as near as Jordan and Lebanon participated in the first Babylon International Festival, offering a wide choice of Arab and Western music and songs, dances, plays, acrobatics, fashion shows and handicraft and book exhibitions. Hundreds of journalists from around the world were invited to cover the festival.

According to Munir Bashir, head of the music department at the Iraqi Ministry of Information and Culture, the festival was in response to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's call for reviving the former glory of Babylon two years ago. "No other ancient capital has enjoyed so high a reputation and position in human thinking and literature in ancient and modern times," Mr. Bashir said.

Babylon is considered to be the birthplace of the first human legislation and a centre for art, music and architecture. Therefore, unlike other cultural festivals held in Iraq, the organisers of the Babylon festival aimed at highlighting Babylon's role in Mesopotamian history and to reestablish it as one of the ancient cities in the world. "We made this festival to connect culture and civilisation," Mr. Bashir explained.

To make this connection the organising committee made up of officials from the Ministry of Information and Culture and directors of the Department of Music, Antiquities, and Heritage, and from the state organisation for

tourism selected groups which complement the history of Babylon and which play instruments similar to those used in ancient times.

Most of the groups performed their traditional dances. The Algerian group Benihman from the city of Sidi Abi Abbas used local instruments which have been used throughout Algerian history like the *gala*, similar to the Arabic drum *tableh*.

The well-known Palestinian pianist Patrick Lama left the last segment of his debut for a piece he called "Inspired by Babylon". Even the Leningrad State Ballet Company dedicated the first half of their ballet to the story of Shalrazad of "One Thousand and One Nights," which originated in Baghdad.

The Iraqi contributions to the festival traced ancient Babylonian culture to the present. This was most evident in the two plays the Iraqis presented: "Gilgamesh" was an Assyrian ode to the king of Babylon Nebuchadnezzar in 604-562 B.C. However, there were several performances which were not associated with the history of Babylon like the Italian opera *La Traviata*, Spanish flamenco, and American jazz.

Most of the festival's activities were held at the Babylonian theatre. The rows of seats which rise above the level of the stage in a half circle accommodate approximately 2,000 spectators. On most nights the arena was completely full and often spectators would be standing on the side of the stage or on top of the walls.

"We believe that an average of 5,000 people attended the performances nightly," said Mr. Bashir. This includes spectators at the Al Arsh Hall, one of the restored palaces within the Babylon revival project which started in 1977.

After studies on the basic features of the ruins were completed by the Department of Antiquities and Heritage and a few foreign

archaeologists, restoration and preservation were started. The framework of the city was derived from historical evidence of Assyrian reliefs and from the vivid imagination of German popularisers of the 1920's and 1930's who drew lavish reconstructions of a bustling city.

"Two years ago we did not have this city, we had only some walls. Using old maps we were able to rebuild the city," Mr. Bashir recalled. To date most of what has been reconstructed is the Babylon of Nebuchadnezzar's reign, the period when the legendary Hanging Gardens, one of the seven wonders of the ancient world, were supposed to have been put up for his wife Amytis. Restoration included the palace (minus the Hanging Gardens), the temples, the procession street and the Ishtar Gate.

Fallen walls were rebuilt and new walls were erected using the yellow kiln baked bricks, similar to but a bit larger than the original Babylonian bricks. Fourteen million of these bricks and over 1,500 Iraqi, Egyptian, Sudanese and South Korean masons and workers were needed for the feat. The excavations were difficult because the city was often rebuilt during its long history.

Some visitors of Babylon noted that the restored Babylon theatre and the Al Arsh Hall were too stark in comparison with the geography of the city. "The buildings were too new, too perfect, they do not blend in with the overall atmosphere, to me it was as if they were built to serve the purpose of a stage only," said one spectator. Another said that the original ruins would have been more appropriate for the festival as they were authentic.

However, Iraqi officials responded by saying that to show people the palace of King Nebuchadnezzar, at least the palace throne room or gate ought to be rebuilt. They say that unlike ruins where the walls are still intact, Babylon had only fragments of bricks to show.

To reconstruct the city as close as possible to the original, map-makers are underway to return the blue glazed bricks now in East Berlin's museum and the rest of the law tablets in the Louvre museum in Paris which belong to Babylon.

In addition to preserving the heritage of Babylon, the festival was an expression of Iraq's resistance to Iran and an assertion to the world that despite the war culture can develop. In this war Iraqis are defending themselves and their culture which is thousands of years old. Through our culture we show our love for life, human relations, etc." Mr. Bashir said.

Overall most of the participants and spectators the Jordan Times interviewed said they considered the festival a success. Some offered constructive criticism. One noted that there was no exchange of thoughts and experiences between artists participating in the festival. He said "I believe that the purpose of such festivals is to group the participants after the shows so that they can learn from one another by exchanging opinions."

Another participant said that there were no critics to offer any kind of criticism, nor was the festival of competitive nature i.e. to have judges rank the performances.

The long distance between Baghdad and Babylon (40 kilometres) was criticised, as was the long distance travelled by the groups to Iraq to perform for usually one and half hours on one night only.

The homogeneity of the acts throughout the one month was another observation. "Most of the shows were folkloric. There were some ballets, plays and operas but very little," said one.

Mr. Bashir pointed out that an executive committee similar to the organising committee is in charge of reviewing this year's festival and offering suggestions for the improvement of the 1988 festival.

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Liverpool survives jinx to stay atop English 1st Division

LONDON (Agencies) — Defender Gary Gillespie headed a 71st minute goal on Saturday which ended Liverpool's jinx with synthetic pitches, a 1-0 victory at Luton keeping the Merseysiders top of the English First Division.

Centre half Gillespie scored from John Barnes' corner as Liverpool finally found their confidence on a plastic pitch where they were drenched twice last season. The victory gave them to 28 points from 10 matches.

Queen's Park Rangers captain Terry Fenwick hit an 85th-minute winner in a 2-1 victory over Portsmouth — also on a plastic surface — which kept Rangers just behind Liverpool on goal difference but having played two matches more.

Arsenal scored their ninth consecutive win to move up to third place with 26 points. Kevin Richardson, scoring his first goal since being transferred last month from Watford, opened the scor-

ing after just 56 seconds against Derby.

Michael Thomas converted a 10th-minute penalty to put Arsenal 2-0 ahead, but Derby pulled one back six minutes later through Andy Garner. It proved to be the last goal of the game.

Nottingham Forest crushed managerless Tottenham 3-0 to stay fourth while fifth-placed Manchester United plays West Ham on Sunday.

For long periods on Saturday, Liverpool struggled again to come to terms with the unfamiliar surface. Luton striker Mick Harford struck the bar twice, including one effort in the last minute, but the visitors scored the decisive goal and marched on at the

top of the standings.

Liverpool, with two games in hand on its closest rivals, moved on to 28 points from 10 games.

The three teams in pursuit all won as well, second-placed Queens Park Rangers beating Portsmouth 2-1, the same score by which Arsenal downed Derby County.

Rangers had to rely on an 85th-minute winner from Terry Fenwick to beat Portsmouth and join Liverpool on 28 points, having played two games more.

Kevin Richardson and a Michael Thomas penalty put Arsenal 2-0 ahead after 15 minutes against Derby County.

One minute later, Derby's Andy Garner halved the deficit but third-placed Arsenal stayed in front to record its ninth successive league win and move on to 26 points from 12 matches.

In other matches, Newcastle won 3-1 at Coventry, Oxford downed the Bottom Club, Charlton, 2-1, Sheffield Wednesday edged Norwich 1-0 and Southampton whipped Chelsea 3-0.

Manchester United's visit to West Ham is being played on Sunday.

In the Second Division, Bradford City maintained its three-point lead at the top of the table after drawing 1-1 at Reading while in Scotland, Hearts stayed on top by trouncing Morton 3-0.

Twins faces elimination in World Series game

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — The Minnesota Twins was scheduled to return to the friendly confines of the Metrodome on Saturday but faced elimination in the 84th World Series, trailing the St. Louis Cardinals 3-2 in the best-of-seven championship.

The Dome was the site of Minnesota's two victories, and it was a welcome sight Friday for the American League champion Twins.

Playing in Busch Stadium, which gobbles up Dome homers and spits them out as fly balls, the Twins lost three straight games, scoring a total of four runs on 18 hits, compared with 18 runs on 21 hits in the first two games.

"The home park is the place to be," Twins catcher Tim Lincecum said.

Game 6 provides a rematch of game 3 pitchers — John Tudor of

St. Louis and Rookie Les Straker of Minnesota. The National League champion Cardinals won game 3, the first at Busch Stadium, 3-1. Tudor allowed one run on four hits through seven innings, while Straker pitched six innings of shutout ball before he was lifted for a pinch hitter.

Twins manager Tom Kelly was second- and third-guessed for taking Straker out of a scoreless halgame, only to let reliever Juan Berenguer surrender three seventh-inning runs, but he avoids that type of decision back home.

The designated hitter was used during the World Series only in the American League Park, meaning that the pitcher does not bat and therefore, does not have to be pinch-hit for in a potential rally.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Jordanian basketballers beat Iraqis

ABU DHABI (J.T.) — Jordan's military basketball team outscored Iraq's military basketball team (86/79) in a match held here Friday night within the First Arab Military Basketball Championships.

RJ cycle-ball team to compete abroad

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Royal Jordanian (RJ) cycle-ball team leaves for West Germany on Monday to take part in the world championship, scheduled to be held in Herning, Denmark, in November. In W. Germany the RJ team will play a series of international friendly matches with the national teams of Australia, the USA, Japan, England, Malaysia, Denmark, Hongkong and West Germany.

Italian rider out of Pharaoh Rally

CAIRO (R) — Italy's Franco Picco, who won last year's motorcycle event in the Pharaohs Rally, dropped out with a broken machine at the sixth stage this year, organisers said on Saturday. They said Picco, riding a Yamaha TT 600, arrived three hours late on the 419-km (259-mile) stage from Abu Simbel to Aswan in southern Egypt on Friday. Halfway through the 11-stage rally Italy's A. de Petri, riding a Cagiva Elephant, was in the lead clocking 15 hours, 10 minutes and 22 seconds. He was 46 minutes ahead of compatriot G. Findano, a member of the Suzuki team. West German rider, H. Roth, suffered a back injury when he was thrown from a Honda side-car on Friday. His teammate and compatriot R. Moeglich escaped unhurt.

Venables to take over at Tottenham

LONDON (R) — Former Barcelona coach Terry Venables was tipped as the leading candidate to take over as manager of English First Division soccer club Tottenham, according to British newspaper reports on Saturday. Venables, dismissed by Barcelona last month, is believed to be the favourite to succeed David Pleat, who resigned on Friday following press reports that he had been trying to solicit prostitutes. Venables is a former Tottenham player and was a member of their Football Association (F.A.) cup-winning team in 1967.

Champ leads campaign against doping

PARIS (R) — Stephane Caristan, European 110-metre hurdles champion and record-holder has called on fellow French athletes to sign a manifesto condemning doping. "We must show all licensed athletes you can become a champion without resorting to methods intended artificially to increase physical capabilities," he said. Caristan said recent allegations of doping, which have appeared in the French press, had allowed doubt to be cast on the credibility of performances.

Kalambay beats Barkley for WBA title

LIVORNO (R) — Zaire-born Sumbu Kalambay outclassed Iran "the Blade" Barkley of the United States to win a unanimous points victory and the vacant World Boxing Association (WBA) middleweight title on Friday. Kalambay, a naturalised Italian and the European champion, pitted speed, technique and a stinging left jab against the sheer aggression of the American to lift the crown by a dominating 147-140, 147-140, 147-142 on the judges' scorecards. The boxers, both fighting their first world title bout, differ widely in style and temperament. From the seventh round on it was the retiring Kalambay's class which prevailed over the mean-man power of Barkley. The 27-year-old American, head down and showing dangerous flashes of force early on, was caught repeatedly by Kalambay's lightning jab and worn down by punishing right hooks as the contest moved towards the distance.

Ozaki takes sole lead in Bridgestone golf

CHIBA, Japan (AP) — Masashi Ozaki birdied the final three holes on his way to a three-stroke third-round lead in the 80 million yen (\$552,000) Bridgestone Golf tournament on Saturday. Ozaki fired a two-under-par 70 despite a cold drizzle Saturday for a three-day total of 207, nine under par for the par-72 Sodegaura Country Club course southeast of Tokyo. The Bridgestone tourney's defending champion and Ozaki's younger brother, Taseo Ozaki, carded six birdies and one bogey for the day's best score of 67. He shared second place at six-under-par 210 with Hiroshi Makino and Shigeru Kawamata, both of Japan.

Shriver, Sabatini advance in Volvo Classic

BRIGHTON, England (AP) — Top seed Pam Shriver of the United States and second seeded Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina both advanced to the semifinals of the \$200,000 Volvo Classic women's tennis tournament Friday. Shriver needed just 58 minutes to down sixth seeded Katerina Maleeva of Bulgaria 6-2, 6-1. Sabatini was on court for only 18 minutes when her West German opponent Bettina Bunge retired with an injury to her right thigh with the score at 5-0 to the Argentine in the first set. Bunge hurt herself during a practice session Thursday night and began the match with her thigh heavily bandaged.

Fighting footballers face penalty

GLASGOW, Scotland (AP) — England soccer internationals Chris Woods and Terry Butcher and Scotland's Frank McAvennie, who were sent off in last Saturday's Scottish League match between Glasgow neighbours Rangers and Celtic, could face criminal prosecution, officials have said. Rangers' goalkeeper Woods and Celtic striker McAvennie were dismissed for exchanging blows and Butcher was sent off for punching Celtic goalkeeper Allen McKnight during a bad-tempered game that ended 2-2.

Jordan's soccer standings

AMMAN (J.T.) — Standings of Jordan's Premier League soccer matches: tabulated under (played, won, drawn, goals for, against, points)

Addufein	15	10	4	1	20	7	24
Al-Ramtha	16	7	6	3	21	12	20
Al-Hussein	15	7	5	3	19	8	19
Al-Ahli	16	6	4	6	22	17	16
Al-Qadisiya	16	6	3	7	13	14	15
Al-Faisali	15	5	4	6	17	16	14
Al-Jazira	16	4	6	6	10	14	14
Amman	15	4	5	6	13	17	13
Al-Arabi	16	3	6	7	9	17	12
Al-Baq'a	16	2	5	9	9	31	9

Kalambay ready for first title defence bout with McCallum

LEGHORN, Italy (AP) — Sumbu Kalambay, the newly-crowned WBA middleweight champion, is used to difficult fights against favoured opponents and therefore does not fear his first compulsory title defence against Mike McCallum.

"Since the start of my professional career, through the European title and the World Crown I have been scoring upset wins. Against McCallum it could be another one," Kalambay said after taking the vacant World Boxing Association (WBA) crown by outpointing American co-challenger Iran Barkley on Friday night. McCallum, an unbeaten world junior middleweight champion who decided to make a stab at the upper category, is the top challenger in the WBA lists and Kalambay will have to fight him within 120 days. Marvin Hagler would come next.

Italian organisers already announced they will try to stage the Kalambay-McCallum title fight in Italy.

The 31-year-old Italian, who was born in Zaire, scored a unanimous decision by outpacing the younger Barkley and showing a superior boxing technique throughout the 15-round fight. Barkley, 27, was unable to land

his powerful left hooks as Kalambay moved fast throughout the ring and used his left jab to keep him away.

The right uppercut was a good weapon for Kalambay, who was close to tears after the three judges gave him an advantage ranging from five to seven points in their scorecards.

"You can just dream a moment like this. Now it's reality," Kalambay said. He dedicated his victory to his wife and son.

Barkley, who suffered his fourth defeat in 26 professional fights, said the bit-and-run tactic of Kalambay confused him and forced him to a tiring and useless pursuit.

"He never accepted to exchange punches," said Barkley, who could not criticise the wide point advantage the judges gave to Kalambay.

He embraced Kalambay at the end of the fight as a sold-out crowd of 4,500 went wild over the victory by the home boxer.

Kalambay became the third Italian boxer to win the middleweight crown. The others were Nino Benvenuti and Vito Antuofermo.

"I already have McCallum in my mind. But let's celebrate this victory now," said Kalambay, who improved his record to 42-2-3.



Seoul's Olympic village where 200 art pieces sculpted by internationally-renowned artists will be displayed in this permanent open-air show in addition to works by selected

sculptors which will then be placed on permanent exhibition indoors.

Pakistan, Sri Lanka to clash in last Pool B cricket match

FAISALABAD, Pakistan (Agencies) — With a place in the semi-finals already assured, Pakistan will meet Sri Lanka in the next-to-last match of Pool B of the Fourth World Cup Cricket Tournament on Sunday.

Pakistan needs just one more win to remain at the top slot of their pool. They have 16 points from four wins.

Pakistan and Sri Lanka have up to now played 18 one day internationals. Pakistan has won 15, Sri Lanka 3 while one match was without result.

Pakistan's highest score against Sri Lanka in a World Cup match, also in any one day international, is 338 for 5 at Swansea, England in the 1983 World Cup.

Sri Lanka's highest is 288 for 9 also against Pakistan, scored at Swansea in 1983.

The two countries have met three times in the World Cup tournaments, all the three matches having been won by Pakistan.

Pakistan team manager Haseeb Ahsan has hinted that two of the players from 14 member Pakistan squad who have not played any match in the tournament so far may get a chance in the tie against Sri Lanka. Haseeb said Shoaib Mohammad or Manzoor Elahie may be given a try in this match.

Pakistan needs one victory from two matches to head Pool B. In Pool A, India is leading, followed by Australia.

Beating drought

In Ahmedabad, India, more

than 50,000 refugees (\$4,000) has been spent to beat the effects of India's severe drought for one World Cup cricket match here on Monday.

Dhiraj Parsana, the groundsman at Ahmedabad's Motera Stadium, said the sum was spent on watering and maintaining the ground and pitch in the past three months for the India-Zimbabwe Group A match.

"There has been almost no rain here in the past few years and we are in the middle of a terrible drought," said Parsana. Just five of the expected 25 inches of rain fell this year, he added.

Gujarat State, of which Ahmedabad is the biggest city, has been one of the worst hit regions of India.

Parsana said the pitch had been relaid but had lost none of its

traditional advantage for batsmen. "But the seamers could get some help in the morning," he said.

The stadium holds around 50,000 people but tickets sales have been for only half this number for a match which is expected to provide champions India with an easy four points.

Pakistan offers to host 1991 World Cup

Pakistan will offer to stage the next Cricket World Cup in 1991 with India as co-hosts, Pakistan Cricket Board President Gulam Safdar Butt said.

He said in Lahore on Friday that Pakistan, hosting 10 matches of the present World Cup, had the "ability and capacity to organise such a big event again."

Athlete sues WTF over drug test ban

BERN, Switzerland (AP) — Swiss middle-distance runner Sandra Gasser, in a lawsuit against the World Track Federation (WTF) has challenged the procedure that led to her two-year ban from competition for drug use and asked a court for temporary reinstatement, her lawyer said Saturday.

The civil lawsuit, filed Friday, claims the International Amateur Athletic Federation's (IAAF) ruling was without legal foundation and, as a first step, asks a Bern judge to suspend it until the IAAF submits a written verdict

and an explanation, Gasser's lawyer Bernhard Rosat said.

Translation and delivery of the IAAF documents should take one to two months, Rosat said.

"The IAAF ruling was reached in proceedings that do not conform to minimum legal standards, without giving Gasser an opportunity to defend herself or, it seems, to appeal," Rosat said.

Gasser repeatedly denied ever using drugs.

The judge could reach a decision as early as Monday, Rosat said.

The IAAF barred Gasser Sept. 29, after finding traces of steroids

in two urine samples taken at this summer's World Track and Field Championships in Rome. It took away her bronze medal in the women's 1,500-metre race in the championships and voided her victory in the mile at the Grand Prix final in Brussels six days later.

Gasser, 25, was the only athlete caught for drugs at the world championships.

She also was among the first punished under the new IAAF drug rules, which provide automatic two-year bans and no appeal for first-time offenders found to have used steroids

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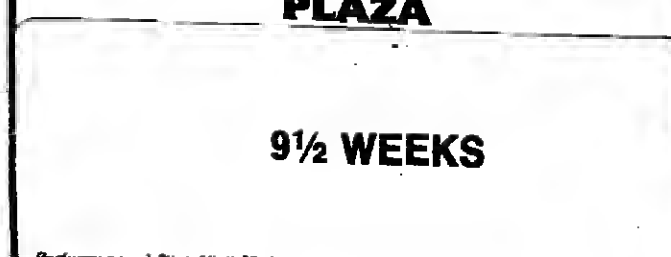


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Prices go up in Turkey

ANKARA (R) — Turkey has raised prices on a range of goods, from imported cigarettes to cement, to help curb inflation and cut a ballooning budget deficit, the State Statistics Institute said on Friday.

Consumers will pay between 33 and 50 per cent more for imported cigarettes and liquor and the government also raised domestic iron and steel, cement and medicine prices.

Energy charges are expected to be among further increases after a general election on Nov. 29, which Prime Minister Turgut Ozal is widely tipped to win.

Inflation in Turkey is expected to reach 43 per cent by the end of the year and bankers say the budget deficit will exceed the 1987 target of 930 billion lira (\$978.95 million).

A 20-pack of imported cigarettes will now cost 1,200 lira (\$1.26) instead of 800 lira (84 cents), while a bottle of imported whisky rises to 15,000 lira (\$15.80) from the previous 10,000 lira (\$10.50).

Industry sources said iron and steel prices were raised by between five and 15 per cent, cement by 2.5 per cent and medicines by five to 25 per cent.

Meanwhile, Turkish State Minister Kazim Oksay will visit Tehran for five days starting on Oct. 26 to discuss oil imports with Iran's oil minister, official Turkish sources said on Friday.

They said Mr. Oksay and Mr. Gholamreza Aqazadeh would discuss Ankara's 1988 oil import plans and preliminary studies for a natural gas pipeline from Iran to Turkey.

Iran was Turkey's main oil supplier in the first eight months of 1987, with 4.49 million tonnes worth \$634.80 million, followed by Iraq, with 4.09 million tonnes and \$545.85 million.

Officials of Turkey's state-owned refinery company Turpas, its oil firm Tpaog and the shipping organisation Ditas will accompany Mr. Oksay, the sources said.

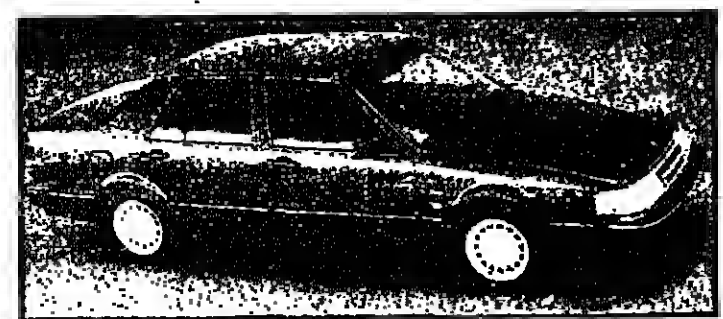
Turkey, a NATO member, wants to diversify its natural gas sources to limit its reliance on mainly Soviet supplies.

A pipeline carrying Soviet gas across the Bulgarian border into western Turkey was inaugurated last June.

Saab to launch new car next spring

STOCKHOLM — The Saab car division of Saab-Scania A.B. in Sweden announced that another major addition to the Saab 9000 line of cars would be launched in the spring of 1988. The new car, to be designated Saab 9000 C.D., is a sedan in the classic three-box mode and will become the new flagship of the 9000 line.

Like the 5-door models, the Saab 9000 C.D. is an exceptionally roomy and well-equipped car, with ample space for five passengers and all their luggage — now in a separate luggage compartment. The Saab 9000 C.D. will be powered by Saab's highly advanced 16-valve, turbocharged two litre engine fitted with an intercooler and the Saab patented APC boost control system. The engine develops 175 HP (160 HP with catalyst) and both manual and automatic transmissions will be available.



FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1987

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Wright Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You'll be able to easily accept changes which are taking place in both business and personal relationships. Avoid arguments with older persons or those from your past. Be charming today.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19): Avoid people who you know will only irritate you. Handle your correspondence cleverly, and you can reap some great rewards.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20): Monetary affairs need careful study so that you don't have the same recurring problems with them. Be very cautious while driving.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21): Handle troubling business matters before getting into some pleasant recreation. You won't enjoy yourself otherwise.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21): Today is a perfect time to rid yourself of work which is unfinished and annoying. Don't listen to the complaints of a co-worker.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 23): Don't let an argument with a good friend throw you off balance; you'll both regret about it by the morning. Keep your poise this evening.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 to Sept. 23): Handling home affairs could be very annoying today, but be conscientious and stop procrastinating. Take on risks while driving.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 to Oct. 23): A secret goal should be pursued enthusiastically today — you have great chances for success right now. Take it easy at home tonight.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 to Nov. 21): Be sure to keep any promises you have made to your family or business acquaintances. Enjoy a forgotten hobby with your mate tonight.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): You'll need plenty of patience to deal with a friend who's in a very strange mood. Take on civic duties only if they are small ones.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): Try to meet the expectations of your family, even if they seem somewhat demanding. Show that you are conscientious tonight.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): Stay at home with your mate, and ignore your friends who may try to lure you into an appealing recreation. Watch your schedule.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to Mar. 20): Take care of your responsibilities even if you have to forego some other matters you had planned. Entertain some guests this evening.

THE Daily Crossword

by Donald S. Grant

ACROSS

1. Scorching

2. Styling

10. Sign

14. Embroidered loop

15. Road for Piny

16. Needle case

17. Mountain crest

18. — boy

19. Control strap

20. Seal pot

23. New Opel

24. Alt. village

25. Box or dog

26. Calendar abbr.

31. Casiro

35. Actor Linden

36. Mr. Heyworth

37. — cat

38. Almost never

42. Water containers

43. End a flight

44. Pinder

45. Move hurriedly

46. Math points

47. Oranges

48. — La Douce

50. Paddle

52. Garahwin hit

53. Enslaves

54. Knotted

60. Groups of cattle

63. NY canal

64. Small duck

65. Beginning

66. Does sums

67. Ancient laborer

68. Brings up

DOWN

1. Numbers man

2. Trumpet AI

3. Maple genus

4. Portly

5. Direct

6. Rotating disk

7. Auster

8. Experiment again

9. Wrapping paper

10. Part of a.m.

11. Suite to —

12. Demolish

13. Strips

22. Used a healing platform

25. Goes in a mail

26. Hawaiian island

27. Sp. hero

28. Zeta follower

30. Cellist Casals

32. Sag

33. Disintegrate

34. Paths

36. Stairway parts

37. Plane curves

40. Resin

41. Oneness

46. Lords and —

47. TV panopticon

49. SW tree

51. Grove

52. Mother of

53. Difficult

54. Surrounded by

55. Give birth to a lamb

56. Orlose

57. Minor

58. Gar. river

62. Thoroughfare: abbr.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week starting Saturday, Oct. 17, '87 and ending Wednesday, Oct. 21, '87. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
Banking and financial institutions					
Industrial Development Bank	200	258	1.290	1.290	1.000
Petra Bank	2700	5402	2.010	2.000	1.000
Jordan Islamic Bank	777	1534	1.900	2.000	1.000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	9209	15384	1.670	1.680	1.000
Jordan Gulf Bank	24500	30344	1.270	1.240	1.000
Housing Bank	568	930	1.640	1.640	1.000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	—	—	—	—	1.000
Cairo Amman Bank	145	2856	19.700	19.600	5.000
Bank of Jordan	2052	34276	16.700	16.750	5.000
Arab Bank	3690	443175	119.750	120.000	10.000
Jordan National Bank	7189	18384	2.580	2.550	1.000
Jordan Finance House for Development	3009	3260	1.100	1.050	1.000
Islamic Investment House	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation	7518	9488	1.770	1.760	1.000
Finance and Credit Corporation	20210	13995	0.710	0.690	1.000
National Financial Investments	2140	3495	1.600	1.640	1.000
National Portfolio Securities	11305	8309	0.710	0.730	1.000
Jordan Securities Corporation	8557	7721	0.910	0.900	1.000
Arab Finance Corporation [Jordan]	3200	4544	1.410	1.420	1.000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	50	750	15.000	15.000	2.000
Al Mashrek Exchange	—	—	—	—	10.000
Insurance and reinsurance					
Jordan French Insurance	1500	9582	6.270	6.310	1.000
REFCO Life Insurance	2583	2456	0.940	0.970	1.000
Jordan Insurance	3600	39920	11.000	11.250	1.000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	77516	64338	0.840	0.830	1.000
Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Holy Land Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Philadelphia Insurance	2500	1575	0.660	0.650	1.000
Arab Udoon International Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Gulf Insurance	2605	3683	1.420	1.400	1.000
Jordan-Gulf Insurance	3800	3800	1.000	1.000	1.000
Universal Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
General Insurance	2500	3765	1.450	1.550	1.000
Jordan Eagle Insurance	50	1253	25.010	25.050	1.000
Middle East Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Al-Izzah Insurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Ahliya Insurance	550	715	1.270	1.300	1.000
Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1.000
Services and industries					
General Investments	2532	3334	1.380	1.300	1.000
Ima for Investment and Financial Facilities	15444	11097	0.710	0.710	1.000
Darco for Housing and Investment	10488	4727	0.460	0.450	1.000
Real Estate Investment (Aqarco)	2865	1175	0.400	0.410	1.000
Jordan Leasing Corporation	486	320	0.640	0.670	1.000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	5642	677	0.620	0.620	1.000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Tajero	1500	450	0.790	0.800	1.000
Jordan Electric Power	8077	12625	1.570	1.550	1.000
Irbid District Electricity	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab International Hotels	—	—	—	—	1.000
Hotels and Tourism	—	—	—	—	1.000
Garage Owners Federation Office	75	315	4.150	4.200	1.000
Jordan National Shipping Lines	1164	996	0.860	0.860	1.000
Jordan Press Foundation	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Press and Publishing	10725	4311	0.400	0.400	1.000
Dar Al Shaab Press, Printing and Publishing	6250	6545	1.050	1.050	1.000
Jordan Dairy	5814	12920	2.240	2.220	1.000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	41592	42591	1.050	1.030	1.000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	4370	10794	2.410	2.450	1.000
Jordan Phosphate Mines	3329	4753	1.450	1.410	1.000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Incaj)	6986	37289	5.400	5.500	1.000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	28300	29329	1.030	1.020	1.000
Aladdin Industries	109705	196395	1.770	1.800	1.000
Arab Aluminium Manufacturing	595	2779	4.670	4.600	1.000
Jordan Worsteds Mills	2495	2635	1.070	1.050	1.000
Jordan Ceramics	—	—	—	—	1.000
Chemical Industries and Match (JIMCO)	67985	49094	0.720	0.730	1.000
Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO)	12678	17528	1.390	1.390	1.000
Dar Al Dawa' for Development and Investment	46300	131525	2.840	2.860	1.000
National Steel Industries	11550	13113	1.150	1.130	1.000
Universal Chemical Industries	2000	3210	1.500	1.600	1.000
General Mining	7785	57015	7.370	7.330	5.000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	110499	21151	0.200	0.180	1.000
Jordan Lime & Brick	—	—	—	—	1.000
National Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Paper Converting and Trading	2200	2117	0.930	0.970	1.000
Jordan Woodco Industries (JWICO)	2611	1917	0.800	0.720	1.000
Livestock and Poultry	5960	7271	1.230	1.220	1.000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	2300	1840	0.800	0.800	1.000
Rafia Industrial for Plastic Bags	4876	12676	2.580	2.600	1.000
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	267000	162782	0.560	0.620	1.000
Jordan Rockwool Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Himeh Mineral	—	—	—	—	1.000
Orient Dry Batteries Factory	—	—	—	—	1.000
Woolen Industries	431	869	2.180	2.020	1.000
Jordan Tanning	3351	10323	3.000	3.200	1.000
Jordan Printing and Packaging	—	—	—	—	1.000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette	—	—	—	—	1.000
Mas Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals	9750	9201	0.960	0.940	1.000
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	114969	116393	1.020	1.010	1.000
Jordan Spinning & Weaving	43586	127070	3.140	3.160	1.000
Jordan Sulphur Chemicals	87946	90543	1.060	1.020	1.000
Jordan Cement Factories	52	48	0.920	0.920	1.000
Jordan Glass Industries	—	—	—	—	1.000
Grand total	1,275,856	1,956,835			

Kuwait belittles difficulties of plunge in share prices

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait, a major investor in world stock markets, said on Friday it would be affected only temporarily by the recent worldwide plunge in share prices.

The oil-rich emirate has reserves estimated last June to be worth \$90 billion, much of it in blue chip stocks in Europe, the United States and Japan.

Share prices in all three markets have plunged in the past 10 days on fears over the health of the U.S. economy.

"Kuwait has pursued a long-term investment strategy which had already made provisions for these developments," Kuwait Investment Authority (KIA) General Manager Fahd Mohammad Al Rashid said.

"It is not built on quick reactions or short-term changes in world markets," he told Kuwait's news agency KUNA.

Sheikh Al Rashid said the emirate's diversified portfolio included bonds, real estate, currencies and other investment vehicles that were less affected by the market turmoil.

KIA's equity portfolio is a closely guarded secret but bankers say it includes most of the top 500 U.S. corporations and about \$1 billion worth of British company shares.

Most of the blue chip equity is held by Kuwait's Reserve Fund for Future Generations, to which it contributes 10 per cent of its annual oil income for use in the post-oil era.

The National Bank of Kuwait estimated its reserves at \$55 billion at end-June.

Sheikh Al Rashid predicted world stock markets would soon recover.

"These markets may return to their previous levels in a short time but at normal growth levels," he said.

Sheikh Al Rashid suggested the emirate would not be pulling out of markets as a result of last week's crash. "We have the ability to wait without any need to sell at low prices," he said.

Kuwait's own stock market, one of the Arab World's busiest, slipped about two per cent last Tuesday in line with the trend.

But government support the following day helped share prices regain about half their losses, dealers said.

Investors sue company

Meanwhile, a group of investors sued the U.S. brokerage Bear Stearns for \$100 million on Friday, charging that the giant Wall Street firm panicked during Monday's stock market crash.

The suit, filed in Manhattan Federal Court, was believed to be the first resulting from what is being called the "crash of '87."

The suit alleges that Bear Stearns and Company personnel were "in a state of panic and hysteria" on Monday when the Dow Jones industrial average fell a record 508 points.

be flat to one per cent higher next year, Mr. Robertson predicted.

The ripples will be felt throughout the economy because consumer spending accounts for two-thirds of U.S. gross national product (GNP).

"Next year GNP (growth) will be very close to zero," Mr. Robertson said. Previously he forecast 2.9 per cent growth in 1988.

The U.S. economy grew 3.5 per cent in the first half of 1987 after expanding 2.9 per cent for all of last year.

"We've had a fundamental expectation shock that is going to take a long time to wear off," said Mr. Stephen Roach, senior economist at Morgan Stanley and Company.

"The consumer will be more cautious."

Monday's crash on Wall Street wiped half a trillion dollars off investors' portfolios and increased the chances of recession next year because of the reduction in consumer outlays and business investment.

Mr. Albert Sindlinger, chairman of Sindlinger and Company, a firm that polls consumers, said the drop in confidence he has measured since the market began falling in late August has been concentrated among stock-owning households, or nearly a third of U.S. households.

The drop was most pronounced in the northeast and in California, and especially among young people. "The fallout has damaged the yuppies who thought (the boom in the stock market) was going to last forever," he said.

"They should have known better."

Mr. Juster, who studies consumer behaviour, said there may be subtle changes in the way consumers view the economy.

"There must be something wrong with the way (the economy) is being run," he said, describing how consumers may be interpreting this week's market gyrations.

Reagan blasts Congress

In reaction to the turmoil on Wall Street, President Reagan, brushing aside calls for a political truce to speed efforts at cutting the U.S. budget deficit, sharply attacked Congress on Friday for overspending and seeking new taxes.

"We see a Congress that is unable to get control of deficit spending...and there are many who, while refusing to cut spending, insist on increasing taxes," President Reagan said in a speech at the Labour Department.

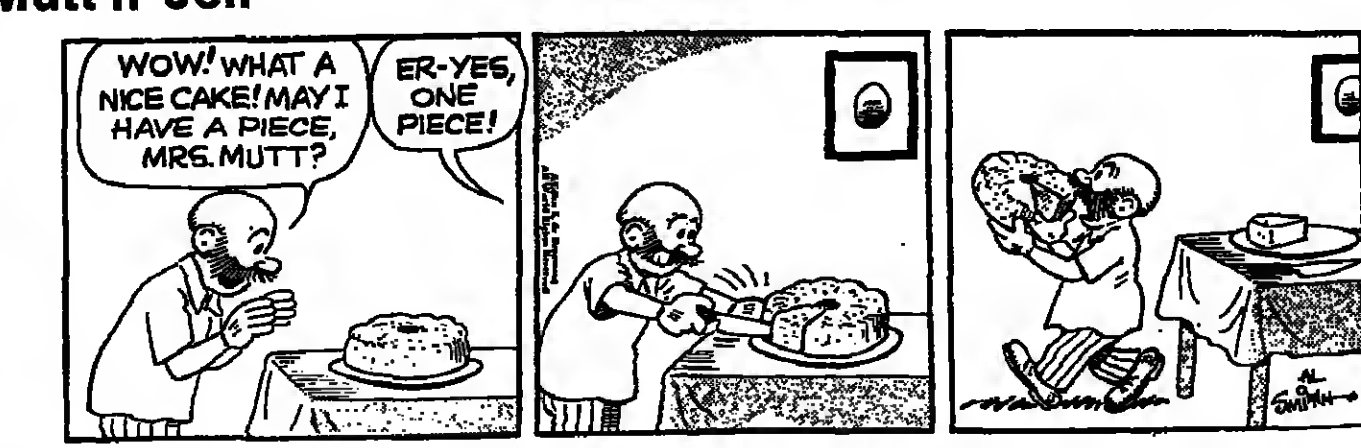
Less than 24 hours earlier, the president told a news conference he was ready to negotiate with Congress, with no preconditions, on how to cut the deficit.

The president's stand, widely expected to lead to tax increases, was an effort to calm chaotic financial markets following frantic selling attributed in part to U.S. budget and trade deficits.

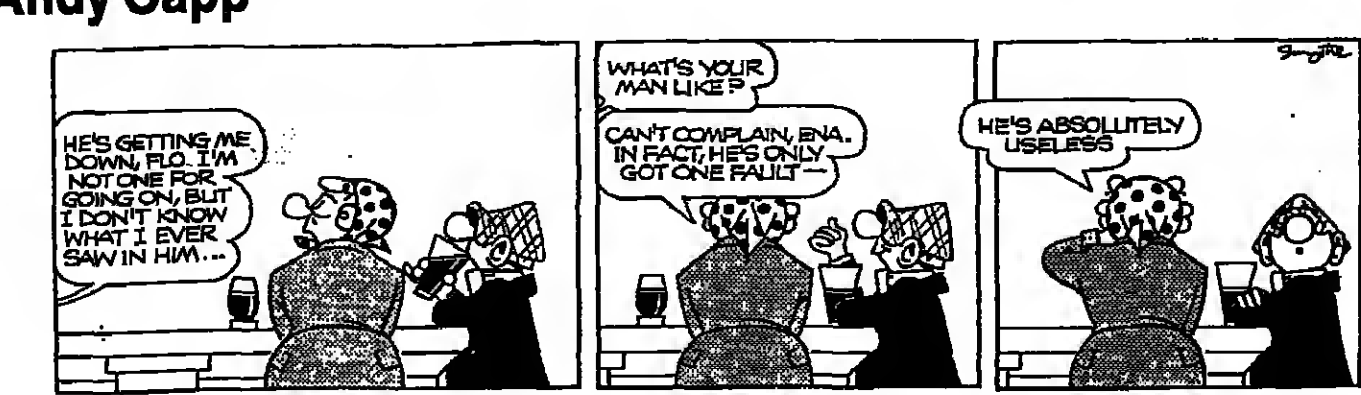
Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris

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JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

W A R L D

D Y N B A

E L F E N N

C O P I T E

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: MAJOR REBEL PUNDT SPLEEN

Answer: He was deaf to his creditors because he was this—UP TO HIS EARS IN DEBT

General: Soviet lasers powerful enough to destroy U.S. satellites

WASHINGTON (AP) — Ground-based lasers in the Soviet Union are powerful enough to destroy U.S. satellites in low-earth orbit and even damage sensors on satellites orbiting at altitudes of 35,900 kilometres, an air force general has said.

Such laser capability is just one of many reasons the United States needs to expand its launch capabilities and take other actions to protect its space "assets" in the event of a war, warned Gen. John L. Piotrowski, the head of the U.S. Space Command.

As the nation recovers from the space shuttle Challenger disaster and recent failures with unmanned Titan 34D rockets, it should begin launching military satellites as "spares," ready for immediate use if the Soviets begin destroying operating satellites, Gen. Piotrowski said.

The Pentagon also must somehow convince Congress to allow further development and testing of an American anti-satellite killer rocket to serve as a deterrent to Soviet aggression in space, he added.

Gen. Piotrowski, who assumed the posts of chief of the U.S. Space Command and commander

of the North American Aerospace Defence Command last February, discussed the military balance in space Friday with several Pentagon reporters.

The four-star general's remarks on Soviet laser capabilities were unexpected, because he provided details that have in the past been shrouded in military secrecy.

The Defence Department disclosed earlier this year the Soviets were experimenting with two large lasers at their Saryshagan Test Centre that appeared "capable of damaging some components of (U.S.) satellites in orbit."

Gen. Piotrowski went much farther Friday, saying those lasers "can kill (a satellite) up to low-earth orbit, can wound up to about 1,200 kilometres and can do in-band damage up to geosynchronous (orbit)."

By "in-band damage," the general said he meant the lasers could destroy various types of

individual sensors on high-flying satellites if the laser light was transmitted in the proper frequency band.

The Space command is responsible for operating a variety of weather satellites, electronic and photo reconnaissance spy satellites, and launch-detection satellites to warn of Soviet missile firings.

Those spacecraft operate at different altitudes depending upon their mission, from as low as a few hundred miles up to geosynchronous orbit of 35,900 kilometres. The latter orbit is used for satellites that need to "hang" over the same point on the ground as the earth rotates.

Gen. Piotrowski said the Soviet lasers could physically damage the solar panels that provide power to a satellite at altitudes ranging from 2,735 kilometres to 11,000 kilometres. Below 640 kilometres, he added, the lasers can physically destroy the satellite itself.

The general declined comment when asked if the Soviets had experimented with the lasers on operating U.S. satellites — as Pentagon sources have suggested in the past — nor would he

discuss how the Pentagon had made its assessment of the Soviet laser capabilities.

Gen. Piotrowski also said he was unfamiliar with a report Thursday by a Swedish company that commercial satellite photographs showed another Soviet laser test facility near the Soviet town of Nurek just north of Afghanistan. He agreed, however, the Soviets have laser facilities beyond those at Saryshagan.

Beyond the lasers, the Soviets have an operational anti-satellite killer rocket, or ASAT, weapon as well as an anti-missile rocket known as the Galosh that could be used against low-flying satellites, the general said.

Congress has for the past two years stalled development of an American ASAT rocket, citing arms control considerations, leaving the United States without any deterrent, he continued.

"The point I want to make is that if the Soviets choose to attack our satellites and take them out — and I believe they can — we don't have the capability to deter their use of those (weapons) ... and we would not be able to get satellites back in space quickly."

2 die from Brazil nuclear contamination

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — A 37-year-old woman and her six-year-old daughter have died of radiation poisoning, the first fatalities in a bizarre nuclear accident which contaminated more than 50 people in the central Brazilian city of Goiânia last month.

Officials at the navy hospital said six-year-old Leide Ferreira, died just two hours after her mother, Maria Gabriela Ferreira. Both were exposed to highly

radioactive Caesium 137. Ferreira's husband, a scrap dealer, and nine others remain in critical condition, hospital officials said.

Leide Ferreira and her mother will be taken to Goiânia on special coffins made of lead and will be buried at a reserved area in the outskirts of the city, they said. The accident occurred when two street scavengers stumbled across an abandoned private el-

nic and smashed their way in with sledgehammers. Inside was some disused radiotherapy equipment, used for treating cancer and containing a cylinder with the Caesium 137 inside.

Their friends were fascinated by its glow and the cylinder containing the deadly powder passed from hand to hand, until it reached Ferreira's junk shop, where friends and neighbours admired it.

Fire bomb thrown at S. Korean candidate

TAEGU, South Korea (R) — A firebomb exploded just metres away from South Korean government presidential candidate Roh Tae-Woo as he drove in a motorcade through Taegu on Saturday, witnesses said.

Mr. Roh was unhurt and his car sped away from the scene towards a gymnasium where he was to give a campaign speech.

The bomb was one of many thrown as several hundred hostile students demonstrated against Mr. Roh's visit to his home town, in the south east of the peninsula. Police used tear gas to disperse them and made seven arrests, a Reuters correspondent on the scene said.

The correspondent saw several youths bleeding from the mouth and nose as police dragged them away.

It was the latest in a series of violent protests to mark a week-long presidential campaign halt by Mr. Roh, 53, the main hotly-contested President Chun Doo Hwan wants to succeed him next February.

On Wednesday in Kwangju, the former general was twice pelted with eggs and a meeting in a street market was called off when a demonstrator exploded a tear gas shell. The south western city was the scene of a 1980 civilian uprising which the army crushed with much bloodshed.

On Thursday, Mr. Roh was forced to delay a campaign meeting in Jongju, north of Kwangju, after groups of dissidents battled police. Later in the day, the government candidate had to abandon plans for a speech in nearby Iri after hundreds of stone-throwing protesters fought with police.

But Capt. Kabore insisted that Capt. Sankara was murdered. "I am being asked to support murderers and I can't," said the 37-year-old, grey-bearded officer in his barracks house, one of whose walls displayed a portrait of the slain leader.

He said he would not march on the capital with his men but challenged those who had rallied to Capt. Compaore to come and get him. "We will defend ourselves to the last cartridge," he said.

A self-appointed popular front which has ruled the impoverished Sahelian nation since the coup has yet to comment on Capt. Kabore's statement, which follows tense negotiations with a close aide of Capt. Compaore.

The country's new leader on Wednesday ruled out disciplinary action against Capt. Kabore, who he said had rallied despite early misgivings.

Capt. Compaore has said the commanders of other military units have pledged allegiance to the new authorities and it was not immediately known if some had followed Capt. Kabore's example.

Capt. Kabore told the reporters he was saying aloud what others thought, a reference to a lack of popular enthusiasm towards the new regime, whose calls for demonstrations of support have gone unheeded.

Filipino Muslim rebels form suicide squads

MANILA (R) — Muslim separatist rebels have set up suicide squads to hit military and government targets in their campaign for an independent homeland in the southern Philippines, military sources said on Saturday.

They said the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), which has been waging guerrilla war for 15 years, planned to send the squads on raids into major cities.

The Muslim groups — formed into a so-called "Tornado Force" — would be similar to "Sparrow Units", the hit squads of the Communist New People's Army (CNPA) which have killed about 100 soldiers and policemen this year, the sources said.

Brigadier-General Jesus Hermosa, army commander in Mindanao Island in the south, told the newspaper Bulletin Saturday that an MNLF squad killed eight men, including a mayor in an ambush last week.

"The MNLF is planning to set-up a provisional government in Mindanao following reports it will be accepted as a regular member in the Jeddah-based Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC)," said an army officer who asked not to be identified.

Government efforts to bring Muslim rebels to the negotiating table failed last June when the MNLF rejected proposals for a referendum on Muslim autonomy

in the south.

Military officials estimate MNLF strength at 19,000 armed regulars but say the rebels have intensified recruitment since the peace talks collapsed last year.

"So far, the MNLF is capable only of conducting sporadic armed hostilities and cannot sustain a long war because of lack of logistics and funds," one army officer said.

"But this Muslim Tornado Force could make the situation bad for us."

Armed Forces Chief General Fidel Ramos said on Saturday insurgency-related incidents had gone down despite intensified Communist guerrilla attacks in the countryside.

He said daily encounters between soldiers and Communist guerrillas dropped to eight this year compared to 10 last year, with the casualty going down to 10 from 13.

Gen. Ramos talked to reporters during formal turnover of 10 armoured vehicles to the army, the latest shipment of U.S. aid to the Philippines which he described as "tangible demonstration of Washington's support for the (Corazon) Aquino government."

He said more equipment, weapons and helicopters were expected to arrive next month.

Peru rebels seize news agency office, radio station

LIMA, Peru (AP) — Armed pro-Cuban rebels have seized the office of the French news agency Agence France-Presse (AFP) on Friday and held 17 people at gunpoint for about 30 minutes, AFP employees said.

Minutes before the noon takeover of the news agency's downtown office, other members of the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement seized a suburban radio station. Police said the six insurgents broadcast a taped political tract after locking eight employees in the bathroom, then withdrew after several minutes.

There were no reported injuries in either raid, which occurred a few hours after the same guerrilla band planted booby-trapped flags on three Lima bridges, which were disarmed by the Lima bomb squad.

Also Friday, Maoist guerrillas in the mountains attacked a police post and wounded a defender, police told the Associated Press.

During the AFP takeover, the rebels painted slogans on the office walls landing Tupac Amaru's incursions in the Peruvian highlands and jungles, where cadres of up to 100 rebels have temporarily seized three villages during the past month.

Salvadoran peace talks fail; both sides to meet in Mexico

CARACAS (R) — Salvadoran government officials and representatives of leftist rebels ended three days of peace talks on Friday without agreeing to a ceasefire; but both sides said they would meet again next week in Mexico.

Salvadoran Archbishop Arturo Rivera Y Damas, who mediated the talks, told reporters the new round of discussions will be held in Mexico City between Oct. 30 and Nov. 4.

A Central American peace plan signed in August by the region's five presidents set a Nov. 7 deadline for ceasefires in wars in El Salvador, Guatemala and Nicaragua.

Rivera Y Damas read a joint statement which said the two sides failed to agree on whether to first discuss a ceasefire or other elements of the accord, known as Esquipulas II.

Reagan seeks new nominee after rejection of Bork

WASHINGTON (R) — President Ronald Reagan is looking for a new conservative Supreme Court nominee after Senate rejection of his candidate Robert Bork, but Democrats say they will again oppose anyone they consider an extremist.

Mr. Reagan said in a statement after the vote that his next

nominee to replace retired moderate Justice Lewis Powell would share Mr. Bork's belief in judicial restraint — that a judge is bound by the constitution to interpret laws, not make them.

Democrats who led the fight against Mr. Bork said they would not accept anyone with similar views on civil rights and individual liberties.

Chinese party congress opens today

PEKING (R) — After a year of political tumult, China's 46 million-member Communist Party begins a landmark national congress on Sunday with public promises to promote younger leaders and speed up economic reforms.

Unlike the congresses of the 1960s and 1970s which were held in secrecy and sometimes only publicised after the event, this meeting has been preceded by a flood of publicity.

"This is a manifestation of the open-door policy we are pursuing," a Foreign Ministry official said in announcing that foreign reporters would be able to hear Sunday's opening speeches for the first time since 1956.

Although the official media have painted a pre-congress picture of national unity and party harmony, the five-yearly meeting follows a protracted power struggle between hard-line conservatives and Deng Xiaoping's reform faction.

Mr. Deng, 83 years old and China's reformist leader since 1978, has made clear his intention to relinquish some but not all of his top posts, as have other ageing revolutionaries.

Premier Zhao Ziyang, 69, a protégé of Mr. Deng and widely tipped to be named as party

leader after the congress, made clear on Friday that China's economic reforms and open-door policy would be accelerated after the congress.

"The new central leading body will be composed of younger and more vigorous people," this weekend's edition of the authoritative Peking Review said.

But behind the scenes, China's old guard has bitterly against policies which they see as leading the country into economic chaos and betraying the revolutionary line set down by the late Chairman Mao Tse Tung.

Internal divisions exploded into view last January when Hu Yaobang, also a Deng protégé, was forced to resign as party leader following nationwide democracy student protests.

Against a background of rising inflation, a record state budget deficit and reports of widespread corruption, the struggle for political supremacy continued as China's leaders withdrew during the summer to the seaside resort of Beidaihe.

Western diplomats and informed Chinese sources said Mr. Deng had resolved the leadership question by late September.

Mr. Deng would step down from the powerful five-man polit-

COLUMNS 7&8

Baby Jessica may lose 2 toes

MIDLAND, Texas (AP) — Jessica McClure's injured right foot apparently won't have to be amputated, but the toddler may lose two toes as a result of her 2½ days trapped in a well, a hospital spokeswoman has said. "I think if anything, it would just be those two toes," said Stellyce Allen, spokeswoman for Midland Memorial Hospital where the 18-month-old girl has been cared for since her rescue a week ago from the narrow well shaft. Jessica slid into an 8-inch wide (20-cm-wide) dry well last week and her foot was jammed at an awkward angle for 58½ hours, cutting off circulation and threatening it with gangrene that doctors had warned could have required amputation of the entire foot. But as surgeons operated for the third time in a week and removed dead skin, they said the main concern was over two toes, according to Ms. Allen. Jessica's dramatic rescue last Friday was televised nationally, and she has received thousands of cards and gifts from well-wishers. Jessica's parents, Reha and Chip McClure, both 18, said they've been told by administrators at the hospital that Jessica's immediate medical expenses have been paid.

Zoo beast freed by storm returns

LONDON (AP) — A leopard that went free when its cage was damaged in a storm has returned to its zoo, its keepers have said. The male animal escaped with its female mate a week ago when hurricane-force winds blew a tree onto the cage at a private zoo owned by millionaire John Aspinall near Hythe, south of London. It turned up safely at the zoo Thursday night, apparently because it was hungry, and was locked in temporary quarters, the keepers said. The female was recaptured soon after it escaped. There were no reports of the leopard causing public disturbance during its week of freedom.

Crab jam slows New Orleans commuters

NEW ORLEANS (R) — Traffic on a New Orleans highway was thrown into chaos on Friday when 2,000 live crabs fell off a lorry. Police said more than 300 cars were tied up for almost six hours east of the city after the bottom fell out of the refrigerated truck, dropping the crabs onto the road. Most of the crabs were flattened under the wheels of commuters' cars, but police said many drivers stopped to scoop up survivors. Crabs are an important ingredient in Louisiana cuisine. "The majority were squished," said New Orleans Police Officer Joe Dejoie. "When you get that many flat crabs on the interstate (highway) it causes a very slick road surface that looks a little bit like oyster stew." The State Highway Department sent a bulldozer to pick up the mess. "It's not going to smell too good around here unless we get a cold front," Dejoie said.

Man lives after being run over by train

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — A man asleep on the railroad tracks survived being run over by a coal train, paramedics said. Alexander Paulsen, 21, of Anchorage was in stable condition at Alaska Native Hospital, a spokeswoman said. He suffered deep cuts and bruises all over his body, paramedics said, but appeared to have no broken bones when they found him on the tracks about 1:50 a.m. Thursday. "He was disoriented, but he was conscious," said Mike Nolan, fire department battalion chief. Alaska railroad workers spotted Paulsen on the tracks between the rails when the Seward-bound train was about five car-lengths away, said spokeswoman Vivian Hamilton. They immediately put on the brakes but the train did not stop until five locomotives and two coal cars had passed over Paulsen, she said. The average locomotive weighs 130 tonnes.

Woman pays back school with skunk scent

RACINE, Wisconsin (AP) — A woman caused a big stink when she learned she would not be hired as a driving instructor. Mary Peterson, 26, of Racine was told after a two-week training course at Arcade Drivers School that she would not get a job she claims she was promised. She returned her textbooks — drenched in a skunk-scented liquid. "I had to do something," she said. "I just had to prove a point that it really stunk what they did to me ... literally. The odor forced two employees out of the building. And Ms. Peterson was arrested on a disorderly conduct charge. She was freed on a signature bond. "We have to make a decision whether we will trust them (instructors) with the lives of our students and our cars," said Linda Zepka, Arcade vice president. "After the two-week training period it was decided we would not put her out on the road. Obviously, we made a very good decision."

Fawn Hall gets summons for eating banana

WASHINGTON (R) — Fawn Hall, glamorous star witness of the Iran-contra hearings, was given a summons for eating a banana on a Washington underground station platform, a transit authority spokeswoman has said. Hall, 28, former secretary to fired White House aide Lieutenant Colonel Oliver North, was given a ticket after ignoring a warning by a transit police officer, spokeswoman Marilyn Dicus said. "She continued to eat the banana and he gave her a citation," the spokeswoman said. The incident occurred around lunchtime at Metro Centre, busiest station on Washington's subway system. It is illegal to eat, smoke or drink in Washington underground stations or on buses. Ms. Hall has 15 days to answer the citation, which usually carries a \$10-fine for a first offence.

Man dies of fright in dentist's chair

WOLVERHAMPTON, England (R) — Barry Cowern, 47, died of fright in the dentist's chair while he waited for 15 teeth pulled out, an inquest was told. Anaesthetist John Elliot said Cowern was extraordinarily nervous although one of his four children was with him trying to calm him down. He had no history of heart trouble but died of a heart attack seconds after being given an anaesthetic injection.

Jury acquits teacher on sex charges

SEATTLE (AP) — A school teacher was acquitted of offering to buy sex from three male teen-agers because a jury believed he was too drunk to be held responsible for his actions. The jurors said they found Emmett James Ford innocent because prosecutors failed to disprove his claim that he was out of control because he was drunk. Several witnesses, including the victims, testified they believed Ford was sober the night of the incident. "Most of the jury felt he did it," Juror Dana Harris said. "But because the state didn't prove he wasn't intoxicated beyond a reasonable doubt, we had to find him innocent." Defence Attorney Jon Zulauf had argued that Ford, a fourth-grade teacher at an Everett school, was innocent because he was so drunk he wasn't even aware of what was happening. But Deputy Prosecutor Saul Gamoran told jurors most people who go to the area in Seattle where Ford was seen at night go to shop for sex or drugs. Further, he claimed that Ford was "a regular" in the neighbourhood. Gamoran belittled Ford's claim that he only went to the area because he enjoys the company of adolescents. The prosecutor also argued that Ford had committed a crime whether he was drunk or not. Ford, 45, of Kirkland, was charged with two counts of patronising a juvenile for the purpose of prostitution and a single count of prostitution involving an adult. He had faced up to five years in prison.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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DUE FOR PROMOTION

12th vulnerable: South deals

NORTH
♦ 8 5 2
♥ 10 9 6 3
♦ A K J 6
♣ 10

WEST
♦ Q 8 4
♥ A J 5
♦ 8 3
♣ K J 9 4 2

EAST
♦ K J 7
♥ 4
♦ 10 9 7 4 2
♣ 9 7 6 3

SOUTH
♦ A 10 3
♥ K Q 8 7 2
♦ Q 5
♣ A Q 5

The bidding:
South West North East
1 Pass 4 7 Pass
Pass Pass
Opening lead: Four of ♠

Scandinavia continues to turn out young bridge players of exceptional ability. The latest to impress is a 27-year-old Dane, Dennis Koch. Here is an example of his ability from the match between Denmark and Great Britain at the World Bridge Olympiad in Miami Beach in September.

The British North-South pair reached four hearts in a quick and uneventful auction. Koch got his side off to an excellent start by

leading a low spade. East might have given his partner some help by playing the jack (West surely was not underleading the ace on this auction), but he elected to go in with the king.

Declaring won the ace and tried to get rid of at least one of his spade losers by playing on diamonds. However, West ruffed the third diamond and had no trouble finding the winning play — he underled his queen of spades! In with the jack of spades. East had no problem about finding the killing return. He continued with another diamond.

There was no counter to this elegant defense. Declarer ruffed high but Koch made no mistake. He simply discarded, and now he had to come to two trump tricks for a one-trick set.

At the other table the contract also was four hearts, but the auction was slower and pinpointed the spade lead. Here, however, the Danish declarer, Stig Werdelin, made his contract by the simple expedient of holding up his ace of spades for one round. Now when West ruffed the third diamond he had no way to reach his partner for the trump promotion, and his side collected only two trump tricks, not three.